

Soviet space aide urges U.S. talks

NEW DELHI (AP) — A top Soviet space official has invited the United States to negotiate the demilitarisation of outer space but warned the Soviet Union can and will counter any U.S. threats. "If the Americans militarise the space against our country, we will have no option but to counter their move," Gen. Vladimir Shatalov told the United News of India in an interview carried Sunday. Mr. Shatalov is the space advisor to the Soviet air chief and is a veteran cosmonaut of three space flights. He is accompanying the Soviet Indian space crew on a tour of India. "With our kind of technological know-how," he said, "we are capable of countering anything that the other side is capable of putting up. What we would like, however — and am sure this will happen — is that we should be able to sit across the table and talk things over. 'I am sure the United States will realise it is for the good of both the powers,' he said.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز جريدة سياسية عربية مستقلة المنشورة من المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية "الرأي"

Dutch premier holds talks in Riyadh

BAHRAIN (R) — Dutch Prime Minister Ruud Lubbers discussed trade and financial issues with Saudi Arabian government ministers in Riyadh Sunday as the two countries signed an economic and technical agreement. Dutch officials said Mr. Lubbers, who arrived Saturday, had separate meetings with Finance and Economy Minister Mohammad Ali Abal Khalil and Commerce Minister Sulaiman Abdul Aziz Al Salim. The officials, contacted by telephone from Bahrain, said the agreement was signed by the Dutch and Saudi foreign ministers, Hans van der Broek and Prince Saud Al Faisal. They gave no details. Dutch officials said Mr. Lubbers and King Fahd discussed the Middle East and the Iran-Iraq war at an hour-long meeting Saturday night following a banquet hosted by the Saudi monarch.

Volume 9 Number 2565

AMMAN, MONDAY MAY 14, 1984, SEABAN 13, 1404

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Kuwaiti official heads for Moscow

KUWAIT (AP) — A high-ranking Kuwaiti official left for Moscow Sunday in quest of an exchange of views with Soviet officials in the "political, economic and social fields." Foreign Affairs Under-Secretary Rashed Abdul Aziz Al Rashid said also before his departure that he would explore with Kremlin officials the issues riddling the Middle East region including the Iran-Iraq war and the Arab-Israeli conflict as well as the international situation in general.

Afghanistan boycotts '84 Olympic Games

VIENNA (R) — Afghanistan has decided not to attend the Los Angeles Summer Olympic Games, the Czechoslovak news agency Ceteka reported Sunday from Kabul. The Afghan Olympic Committee made its decision at a meeting in Kabul, saying the United States authorities had launched a campaign threatening the security of the athletes and violating the Olympic Charter. Ceteka, quoting Afghanistan's official Bakhtar news agency, said, "Afghanistan became the seventh country to join the Soviet Union in pulling out of the games (See story on page 6).

Syria says Israel preparing for war

DAMASCUS (R) — Syria accused Israel Sunday of "continuing its preparations for a large-scale aggression" against it. The official Damascus Radio said Israel was massing forces all along the frontlines where Syrian and Israeli troops confront each other. "The least that can be said of this is that it is in the context of spreading a war atmosphere in the region," the radio said.

Libya accuses U.K., U.S. of 'terrorism'

BEIRUT (R) — Libya Sunday accused Britain and the United States of aiding "terrorist" activities against it inside and outside Libyan territory, the official Libyan news agency JANA said. It said the Italian and Belgian envoys in Tripoli, whose embassies are looking after British and American interests in Libya, were called to the Foreign Ministry and handed protests to be delivered to the two governments. See related story on page 2.

Angolan rebels free 17 captives

JOHANNESBURG (R) — Sixteen Britons and the Portuguese wife of one of them arrived in Johannesburg Sunday after being freed by Angolan anti-government rebels who held them captive for two months. They flew to freedom in a chartered aircraft after a senior British diplomat travelled to southern Angola to meet Jonas Savimbi, leader of the UNITA (Union for the Total Independence of Angola) rebel group. The Britons were among about 80 foreigners, mostly Portuguese and Filipinos, seized in a raid on the diamond mining centre of Kalunfo on Feb. 23 and forced to trek 1300 kilometres south to Mr. Savimbi's headquarters.

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'Inple nentation, not principle, of U.N. resolution is negotiable' • 'Islamic fundamentalism is not a threat'

Hussein says U.S. support for 242 is eroding

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

LONDON — His Majesty King Hussein said Sunday Israeli settlements in the occupied West Bank were being created through American material help.

Speaking on a British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) international radio phone-in programme, King Hussein said every Israeli settlement was an added obstacle in the path of peace.

He reiterated his commitment to United Nations Security Council Resolution 242, which established the principle of Israeli withdrawal from Arab territories in exchange for recognised borders. The U.S. was among the countries which voted for the resolution in 1967.

Asked whether he believed U.S. support for the resolution was eroding, King Hussein replied: "Yes, sadly this appears to me to be the case at the moment. After all, these settlements are created through American material help."

"Israeli military might in any event is the result of continued American support," he added.

"The acquisition of territory by war, we can't negotiate that. But we can negotiate the implementation, we can negotiate the establishment of comprehensive peace in the area," he said.

The King was asked by a caller from Antwerp, Belgium, why he could not fly to Jerusalem as the late Egyptian President Anwar Sadat did in November 1977, a move that led directly to the 1978

we recognise the rights of all to live in peace and security and we seek our rights to do so."

Following are highlights from the questions and the King's answers in the BBC phone-in programme:

Question: I would like His Majesty to corner Israel, possibly politically.

Answer: There are obviously a number of constraints, but we are trying to put across the following: U.N. Security Council Resolution 242, which has as its preamble the inadmissibility of acquisition of territory by war, cannot be a subject of negotiation.

"We can meet to try to negotiate its implementation and we have been trying for so many years. I can assure you that nothing will give me greater pleasure than to ask the Israelis to very frankly and very openly make their position even clearer."

"It appears at the moment to be one worthy claim that the land is theirs, that the problem is a problem of people and not of land, and yet, they seek to negotiate and negotiate over principles. This is the difficulty that we face."

You asked about Rabat. In Rabat I represented the Arab heads of state in visits to four permanent members of the Security Council and I also visited the United States and, ironically, everywhere.

The words were the same and everyone believes that the solution to the Palestinian problem and the Arab-Israeli problem must be based on the implementation of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338. This we had adopted and we are trying to

see a movement towards its implementation.

Q: Is there any real progress on the West Bank question? Is it still possible in the light of the Israeli settlements? As they are going on?

A: It may be possible for a period of time, but I believe that conditions are becoming worse and we are getting unworkable obstacles in the path of peace. Every new settlement is really an added obstacle to the attainment of a durable peace in our area.

Q: Has the Israeli settlement policy in the West Bank reached the point of no return?

A: It looks pretty serious. I don't think that there is genuine goodwill within the area and this world to help us move towards the establishment of peace. The alternative to lack of progress towards peace is deterioration of the situation and this could be very dangerous to all in the area, their future and world peace. So we must be keeping trying.

Q: What do you think of the American position on Resolution 242 in view of your disappointment you have been expressing about the Americans in recent weeks?

A: The position is clear. The Reagan plan for example mentions 242 as a foundation for the progress towards the establishment of peace and it has been a common denominator in all the initiatives for the establishment of peace so far.

But what we have told our American friends time and again is that we cannot deal with them as an ally of Israel or as a mediator, but as a superpower, which together with us, contributed towards

re-drafting Resolution 242.

But I believe that the U.S. support for 242 is eroding. Sadly this is the case at the moment. After all these settlements are created through American material help.

Israeli military might in any event is the result of continued American support.

With regard to the Reagan plan for example, the reactions were first an Israeli outright rejection of the plan and it was followed by an intensification of settlement activity. So this kind of problem that we face with the United States.

We feel that it (the U.S.) could do more to ensure that what it proposes for peace is respected by all. But this is not a problem that we face. It is a problem that we have to deal with Israel and others.

Q: Do you think that the Americans are giving up on the possibility of (a freeze in building) settlements?

A: Not only the settlements, but also the question of human rights, the right of people there (in the occupied territories) to express themselves. They have approached recently and approached the PLO (Palestine Liberation Organisation) pleading to work together and at the same time for the establishment of peace and to remove the impossible conditions under which they live. But unfortunately the people in the West Bank and the Gaza are denied the rights to move out and express themselves on these points.

Q: Why do the Jordanians support Iraq against Iran in spite of the fact that you, Sir, were friendly with

the Shah of Iran?

A: Well, the fact of the matter is Jordan has always sought to have the best relations with Iran if Iran responded in the same way. On the other hand, as far as the war, which is unfortunately raging now for almost four years, is concerned, we believe that this could have been averted and could have been stopped and at any time if it were an issue of territorial adjustments or border ratifications. The way would then obviously be the way it would have been through negotiations at the negotiating table.

The other dimension of it is obviously to the aspirations to place the relations between Iraq and Iran on the common foundations of mutual respect and non-interference in the affairs of each other. Indeed that should also apply to Iran and other neighbours. There was an undeclared war before the final eruption that caused us to see the series of tragedies of so many years.

Iran historically annexed Arabistan which became Kurdistan and the argument was later over the Shatt Al Arab and beyond that. As far as Iraq is concerned, I believe that Iraq has been positive in responding favourably to every attempt and every initiative to end the hostilities and negotiate. We are also members of the Arab League and we have the League Charter and we have the Joint Defence Agreement that compels us to stand by our brothers when they are threatened.

Q: Why are Muslim brothers fighting Muslim brothers? You take

it as a threat to yourself in what happened to the Shah and I take that it means a threat by the Islamic fundamentalists in the area?

A: I don't think this is a threat to me because I am a proud descendant of the Prophet Mohammad. And beyond that I don't believe that Islamic fundamentalism is a threat. It is a threat if it is manipulated from outside.

However, the tragedy of Muslims fighting Muslims is probably part of the answer that I would give.

I believe that there is an attempt to create another rift between Muslims and Shi'ites and Sunnis, and this is probably the cause why the war has continued so far. This is what we have resisted and thank God Iraq has held together as a one nation, Sunnis and Shi'ites alike, and if this were to be reversed in any form or way the disaster will not only overtake Iraq but the entire area.

Q: What is the nature of your commitment to Iraq in its war with Iran?

A: We support them to bring the war to an end. We would like to see the border question that they agreed upon in the past upheld, and the relations between Iraq, Iran and all other countries in the area should be based on mutual respect.

Q: How far could you apply your support of Iraq in military terms?

A: We will help as much as we can. However, I don't think that the Iraqis need our support. We will offer what we can as we have done in the past.

New flare-up in fighting hits Beirut cabinet's credibility

BEIRUT (R) — The credibility of Lebanon's new national unity government has suffered a serious blow with the failure of the ministers to stop their private armies shelling Beirut and killing at least 18 civilians Saturday night.

The government, which includes representatives of all the main militias, had its first full meeting on Thursday amid hopes that Lebanon was at last on the road to peace.

The illusion was shattered Saturday evening when shells started crashing into residential areas on either side of the "green line" which divides the capital into a predominantly Christian east and a mainly Muslim west.

The combatants — Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) and Shi'ite Muslim "Amal" forces in the west, the Lebanese army and the mainly Christian right-wing

"Lebanese Forces" militia in the east — each blamed the other side for starting the fighting, which died down towards dawn Sunday.

The "Voice of the Mountain", the private radio station of the mainly Druze militia, said the "Lebanese Forces" and the army wanted to kill off the government as quickly as possible.

Camille Chamoun, president of the political wing of the "Lebanese Forces", said the first shells had come from the western sector, where "unruly elements" were stationed.

In another blow to the credibility of the government, PSP militia leader Walid Junblatt was quoted as saying his presence in the cabinet did not mean he accepted the legitimacy of President Amin Gemayel or had renounced the use of force to achieve his party's ends (See story on page 2).

In an interview published Sunday in the English-language magazine "Monday Morning," Mr. Junblatt said Mr. Karam's government was just "an opportunity to achieve a kind of truce... which might last a month or six months, I don't know."

Asked if he was ready to stop his militia fighting government forces now that he had joined the cabinet, Mr. Junblatt said: "No, no. It doesn't mean we have recognised the so-called legality of (President) Amin Gemayel or what he represents."

Interviewed before this weekend's outbreak of fighting, Mr. Junblatt said the Lebanese should take advantage of the present truce to build a modern Lebanon.

"If we don't take advantage of this truce, Lebanon is over. We have to act quickly, very quickly," he said.

'15 Israelis killed or injured near Hebron'

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — A rebel faction of the mainstream Palestinian Fatah commando group Sunday claimed responsibility for an ambush Saturday night on the Israeli occupied West Bank in which they said 15 Israeli soldiers were killed or wounded.

A statement by the Fatah interim leadership, which opposes Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat, said two of its members were also killed in the clash.

It said a Fatah unit attacked a company of Israeli soldiers and

military vehicles near Azana village in Hebron district using rocket shells and light arms.

The Israeli military command said in Tel Aviv that Israeli soldiers shot and killed two suspected commandos in the occupied West Bank.

Israel Television, quoting military sources, said Saturday the two men carried membership cards of Fatah.

An Israeli foot patrol saw the men walking by the main road that crosses the southern West Bank through the Hebron mountains.

When the soldiers ordered the men to stop, the commandos opened fire and the Israelis shot back, killing them, according to the television version of the incident.

Meanwhile, Israeli security forces Sunday arrested four Palestinian employees of Al Fajr, the East Jerusalem Arabic-language newspaper, as they distributed copies in Idna village on the occupied West Bank.

Israeli sources said they were detained on suspicion of distributing "illegal propaganda material," Reuters said.

Israel to exhume bus hijackers' bodies

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — An Israeli inquiry into the deaths of four Palestinian commandos after they hijacked a bus a month ago has ordered autopsies on the bodies of two of them, state radio reported Sunday.

At least one of the two commandos was reported to have been photographed being led away by Israeli soldiers after the troops stormed the bus near the Egyptian border and released hostage passengers after an all-night siege.

Military censorship has prevented publication of the photograph.

Defence Minister Moshe Arens ordered the inquiry April 27 be-

cause of charges that two of the four commandos were killed after they had been captured and not when Israeli troops stormed the bus.

The charges were supported by the photograph showing a man, apparently uninjured, being led away by Israeli soldiers after the troops stormed the bus. A military spokesman said after the army's action that said two hijackers had been killed outright and two died on their way to hospital.

The newspaper Davar said that Mr. Arens had promised results of the inquiry would be released shortly.

The commandos took control of

a bus from Tel Aviv to Ashkelon with 35 passengers aboard last April 12 and forced the driver to speed southward into the Gaza Strip. They had hoped to cross the Egyptian border and negotiate for the release of 500 Palestinian prisoners in Israel. Military snipers shot the bus to a halt 35 kilometres north of the border by shooting out the tyres of the bus and stormed it 10 hours after the hijacking began.

Mr. Arens' spokesman could not be reached Sunday to confirm the report on the autopsies. The minister said in a lecture on Friday that he expected to receive the inquiry's findings soon.

Israeli convoy attacked in Sidon

BEIRUT (AP) — Lebanese resistance forces fired a rocket-propelled grenade at an Israeli patrol at midday Sunday as it drove through the southern Lebanese coastal town of Sidon wounding a number of Israeli soldiers, eyewitnesses said.

The salvo hit a truck loaded with Israeli soldiers, the witnesses told Lebanese reporters, adding the patrol also included another truck, two jeeps and an armoured personnel carrier.

Israeli troops fired randomly their automatic weapons immediately after the attack and sealed off the area for a search, said the witnesses.

They said the attack occurred at the port area while the patrol was on its way from Israel's front line at the Awali River, a couple of kilometres north of Sidon.

The attack was the first in about a month against the Israelis in Sidon after the occupation force handed key points inside the city, 40 kilometres south of Beirut, to its ally, the South Lebanese army militia.

An Israeli military spokesman in Tel Aviv claimed there were no casualties in the grenade attack.

An investigation was under way, the Israeli spokesman said. He said a "South Lebanese Army" position in Sidon came under rifle fire later, but no injuries occurred in that incident either.

A spokesman for the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) said, meanwhile, that a 15-year-old Arab girl injured during a confrontation between Israeli forces and villagers in Maarakah the day before was doing well on Sunday.

Civilian killed

On Saturday, Israeli occupation forces shot and killed a Lebanese civilian when the truck he was driving crashed through an Israeli roadblock in Sidon, Reuters said.

The news agency quoted Israeli military sources as saying that the soldiers manning the roadblock opened fire, killing the driver, after he failed to obey their order to stop and hit the barrier.

Kuwaiti tanker hit in Gulf

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — A Kuwaiti tanker, carrying more than 76,000 tonnes of fuel oil from Kuwait to Britain, was hit in the Gulf Sunday by a missile fired from a warplane, its owners said.

The chairman of the Kuwaiti Oil Tanker Company (KOTC), owners of the 55,454-ton tanker Umm Casbah, said the plane was "unidentified" but shipping sources throughout the Gulf said they assumed the ship had been hit by an Iraqi fighter.

It was the third loaded Arab oil tanker attacked in the Gulf, apparently by Iraqi warplanes, in less than three weeks. But unlike the other two tankers, both Saudi-owned, the Umm Casbah had not loaded Iranian oil.

The chairman of the KOTC, Abdul Fattah Al Badr, told the Kuwait News Agency the Umm Casbah had been carrying 76,560 tonnes of Kuwaiti fuel oil from Kuwait and was headed for Britain when it was hit at 9.02 a.m. (0602 GMT).

It was not in the prohibited war zone declared by Iraq at the north of the Gulf, he said, giving its position at the time of the attack as 27 degrees 43 minutes north and 50 degrees 11.9 minutes east.

This put the vessel about 40 miles off the Saudi Arabian coast

and 85 miles north of Bahrain, well south of the area where the two Saudi-owned tankers were hit, one on April 25 and the other on May 7.

Mr. Badr said there were no casualties on board the Umm Casbah and that there had been no fire or explosion. Damage was confined to the ship's central tank but no oil had been lost.

The ship's first officer, reached by ship-to-shore telephone, told Reuters the 27 crewmen were all Bulgarians. He confirmed the ship had been damaged but declined to say whether it had been attacked.

The tanker had anchored, waiting for officials to arrive by helicopter from Kuwait to inspect the damage and investigate, the officer said. Mr. Badr said the ship would dock at Bahrain for further investigation.

Saudi tanker ablaze again

The Associated Press adds: The Saudi Arabian registered oil tanker recently damaged by an Iraqi air attack near Kharg Island, was ablaze again and appeared to be in critical condition Sunday, according to shipping sources.

Roberto Georgi, general manager of the Jeddah-based Amar Line Maritime Limited, owners of

the Al Ahood tanker, told the Associated Press that the fire broke out again Saturday night in the pump room because of the "accumulation of gas in that room... and the temperature of the steel."

He also said the stern of the tanker had now sunk to the seabed under the weight of the crude oil tonnage the vessel was carrying.

The 117,710-ton tanker was in shallow waters about a mile south of the Iran-Iraq war zone, and close to the southern Iranian coastline, he said.

Umm Casbah, loaded with 76,560 tons of fuel oil destined for the United Kingdom, became the first state-owned vessel belonging to the Arab Gulf states, to be enmeshed in the war between their northern neighbours.

It was also the first time an Arab official confirmed a vessel was hit as the escalation in the 44-month-old Iran-Iraq war began engulfing traffic in the Gulf sea-line in recent weeks.

The two Saudi tankers belonged to the private sector in the kingdom and were chartered to European-based firms.

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Baz predicts phased Israeli pullout

CAIRO (AP) — President Hosni Mubarak's top political adviser said Sunday he expected a phased Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon, and added a Labour Party victory in Israel could lead to a "slight improvement" in the chances for peace in the region.

Osama Al Baz, the Foreign Ministry official who heads President Mubarak's political office, first told an assembly of Egypt's foreign press association that he expected the withdrawal by end of the year.

But asked for clarification, he replied: "From the available evidence we have and from our assessment of the situation, and the prospective policy of the parties concerned in the coming few months, one has reason to believe that the Israeli occupation of southern Lebanon could be phased out, and it is our desire to see this take place as soon as possible."

He said Egypt would like to see a total Israeli withdrawal and not a just tactical withdrawal to gain military advantage and prevent Israeli casualties.

Mr. Baz, who was trained as a lawyer and studied at America's Harvard University, applauded Israel's Labour alignment for advocating the concept of land in exchange for peace, but said Labour's refusal to talk with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) was "negative."

"The policy of the Labour Party remains unclear, it lacks specificity," said Mr. Baz, adding later, "the position of the Labour Party in Israel leaves a lot to be desired. It could be a slight improvement. However, it falls short of the needed change we are looking for there."

He criticised the Israeli government for rejecting PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat's proposal for direct talks between the PLO and the Jewish state.

Mr. Baz said he did not expect any significant changes in Egyptian foreign policy as a result of the parliamentary elections set for May 27. "No matter what the outcome will be."

He noted no Egyptian party was advocating renunciation of the

U.S.-sponsored Camp David accords with Israel, although two parties had expressed reservations about the accords.

He denied a recent statement by the PLO representative here, Sa'ed Kanaani, that Egypt had agreed to host the Palestine Research Centre in Cairo. The Beirut-based facility was looted by the Israeli army in 1982 and closed down after two car bombings.

"No decision has been made, because we have not been approached by the PLO officially on that matter," he said.

Gulf mediation to continue

Reuters adds: Egypt would also continue efforts to end the Iran-Iraq war despite rejection of its peace proposals by Tehran. Mr. Baz said.

"We think Iran's rejection of our proposals should not deter us from moving ahead," Mr. Baz said. "We do not consider ourselves a party in the war. It is our intention to help stop it."

Qawasmeh says settlements are part of old Israeli plan

By Afifah A. Kaloti
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The deported Mayor of Hebron, Fahd Al Qawasmeh, said Sunday a projected Israeli plan to settle 3,000 Israelis in the West Bank town of Hebron is merely a continuation of a plan drawn up by the Likud government years ago to settle Jews in heavily populated Arab areas.

The London-based Arabic daily, Ash Sharq Al Awsat, last week quoted a prominent Palestinian figure as describing this plan as the worst Israeli conspiracy since 1967. The paper said that the plan aims at evacuating the city of its legal inhabitants and settling a huge number of Jews.

The anonymous Palestinian figure was also quoted as saying that Gush Emunim Union plans to build settlements in the city of Hebron as well as building a commercial centre and Jewish religious institutions in both areas of Haram Al Ibrahim and the Hebron Market Centre.

In an interview with the Jordan Times, Mr. Qawasmeh said this plan "is new in implementation but old in design."

Mr. Qawasmeh explained that the Israeli settlement plan in Hebron dates back to a cabinet resolution adopted on Feb. 8, 1980.

He added that the plan included several stages which started in set-

ting Arab schools and houses at the outer limits of the city. And "now the occupation authorities have extended their plan to the heart of the city."

Mr. Qawasmeh said that moving the bus station of the Hebron Municipality to the edge of the city, and the threat to move the Hebron Market Centre aims at "putting their hands on the centre of the city and hence depopulating the Arab inhabitants."

He said that the planned opening of a road from the Jewish settlement of Kiryat Arba to the centre of the city passing by Haram Al Ibrahim will result in demolishing houses and destroying Islamic and cultural sites.

He added that this plan will also result in dividing the city into two abandoned halves and hence "avoid Arab gatherings in the centre of the city."

In reply to a question, Mr. Qawasmeh said that until now there are few Jewish families res-

iding in Hebron. However, if the Israeli authorities achieve their plan to settle 3,000 Jews, there will be hundreds of families in the centre of the city apart from the 4,000 Jewish settlers in Kiryat Arba.

Mr. Qawasmeh pointed out that the danger of the Israeli plan to build settlements, lies in the ideology of two Zionist extremist groups, Gush Emunim and Kach, which openly call for evicting Arabs from Palestine.

He said that the newly settled Jews, in the Arab lands, are merely there to tighten the noose around the Arab inhabitants and make life difficult for them, hence "expelling Palestinians from their homeland."

Mr. Qawasmeh said that Palestinians stood firmly against these Israeli measures using all peaceful ways which include strikes and sit-in campaigns. "We have always resorted to international organisations and to the United Nations but to no avail."

"As long as the Zionist enemy holds power, practices repression and enforces laws to serve Israeli causes, and as long as the Israeli army is stationed everywhere in the occupied Arab lands we cannot but continue to expose Israel's plans. This is the least we can do until circumstances change," Mr. Qawasmeh added.

Prince Saud says passive U.S. role would make peace easier

BEIRUT (R) — Saudi Foreign Minister Saud Al Faisal said that if the United States adopted a purely passive role in the Middle East it would be easier to bring about peace.

Prince Saud said in an interview published Sunday in the Beirut English-language magazine Monday Morning: "Even if America refrained from doing anything at all, this would greatly increase the prospects of soon reaching a speedy, peaceful settlement."

U.S.-Saudi relations are currently going through a bad patch, partly because of what Saudi officials see as a persistent U.S. tilt towards Israel and a misunderstanding of their own au-

thorities. "Our main demand of the United States is that it be just and even-handed in its policy towards the Middle East and not be biased towards Israel to an extent that enables Israel to reject peaceful solutions," Prince Saud said.

He said Saudi Arabia, Washington's oldest major Arab ally, appreciated the Soviet Union's support for the Palestinian people and its supply of arms to Arab front-line states.

The foreign minister, asked if Riyadh was about to open relations with Moscow, said: "There are in fact relations and contacts with the Soviet Union. What has been suspended is diplomatic rep-

resentation and this will come in time."

Riyadh rushed out a statement after Soviet ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin dined at the Saudi embassy in Washington recently to discourage speculation about warmer Saudi-Soviet relations.

Prince Saud implicitly denied press reports that Saudi Arabia's Beirut consul Hussein Farrah, abducted in west Beirut by unidentified gunmen on Jan. 17, was released on the Lebanese-Syrian border in March.

The prince said the Saudis had no information on the fate of Mr. Farrah but presumed he was still alive.

Zia, Ozal voice concern over Gulf war

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP) — The leaders of Turkey and Pakistan expressed serious concern Saturday about the continuing Iran-Iraq war and the Soviet military intervention in Afghanistan.

The talks between Turkish Prime Minister Turgut Ozal and Pakistani President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq focused on the conflicts in the neighbouring countries, senior foreign ministry officials said.

Mr. Ozal is on a four-day official visit.

"They are really worried over the state of fighting in these three regional countries," one ranking foreign ministry official said in reference to Iran, Iraq and Afghanistan.

Both Mr. Ozal and Gen. Zia are

leaders of Muslim nations, but their past attempts to bring an end to the 43-month-old Gulf conflict have been fruitless.

"We should pray very, very hard, as all attempts to bring peace in Iran and Iraq have so far ended in failure," sources quoted Gen. Zia as saying.

The two leaders also noted that several international initiatives to solve the Afghan issue have not yet succeeded, although there is a "slight forward movement" in United Nations-supervised talks between Islamabad and Kabul.

The two leaders agreed that Soviet troops must be immediately withdrawn from Afghanistan to bring peace to the Gulf region and Western Asia, the sources said.

Gen. Zia told Mr. Ozal that Pakistan is "actively pursuing" its objective to have "a peaceful and friendly relationship" with its eastern neighbour, India.

Foreign Ministry sources said the talks on regional and international issues also took up the question of Lebanon and Cyprus.

Mr. Ozal told Gen. Zia he appreciated the strong support which Pakistan extends to the Turkish-Cypriot people, according to the sources.

The two leaders also reviewed the progress made by a joint ministerial commission of Turkey and Pakistan in promoting trade and joint economic ventures. The commission completed its fifth session in Islamabad on Saturday.



OLD ENEMIES MEET: Shih'ie Muslim leader Nabih Berr (right), shakes hands with ex-President of Lebanon Camille Chamoun (left) as Lebanese President Amin Gemayel looks on, Thursday, in Beirut (AP wirephoto)

Junblatt refuses to renounce force

BEIRUT (R) — Lebanese Druze Leader Walid Junblatt, a minister in the country's new National Unity Cabinet, has refused to accept the legitimacy of President Amin Gemayel or to renounce force to achieve his party's ends.

In an interview published Sunday in the English-language magazine Monday Morning, Mr. Junblatt described the government as "an opportunity to achieve a kind of truce ... which might last a month or six months. I don't know."

Mr. Junblatt, joint leader of the armed opposition to Mr. Gemayel and his Falangist militia allies, joined the cabinet last Monday as minister of public works, transport and tourism.

His mainly Druze Progressive Socialist Party (PSP), which advocates a radical overhaul of the system of political sectarianism in Lebanon, has been fighting the army and the Falangist militias in and around Beirut since last September.

Until recently Mr. Junblatt was calling for Mr. Gemayel's resignation and trial for "crimes against the Lebanese people."

Asked if, having joined the government, he was ready to drop armed force as a means to attain

his goals, he said: "No, no. It doesn't mean we have recognised the so-called legitimacy of Amin Gemayel or what he represents."

His party and the other private armies in Lebanon would only lay down their arms when they all felt the state was their state and the regular army their army, he added.

He said the Lebanese should build on the opportunity of a truce to create a modern Lebanon — the PSP's term for a secular, socialist and Arab-oriented Lebanon.

He said: "If we don't take advantage of this truce, Lebanon is over. We have to act quickly, very quickly."

"Let us achieve a deal on the future of Lebanon, instead of shooting each other and gunning each other down. So many innocent people are just dying, on both sides."

Mr. Junblatt was speaking in the middle of last week, before the sudden outbreak of random shelling which killed at least 18 people and wounded about 70 on both sides of Beirut Saturday night.

The minister ruled out the creation of a Druze canon in the Druze-held Shouf Mountains southeast of Beirut, an option fav-

oured by Falangists who want to set up a similar Christian entity north of the capital.

"It's not viable. The simple idea of canonisation is just suicidal and could just destroy what is left of Lebanon."

The PSP leader acknowledged that mainly Muslim west Beirut, which is under the control of the PSP and its Shih'ie militia ally Amal, was slipping back into anarchy.

A string of armed robberies, car thefts and kidnappings have received prominent coverage in the Beirut press since the militias took over from the Lebanese army in February but it is not clear that the crime rate has in fact risen.

"A lot of arms are coming into west Beirut, a lot of groups are appearing, a lot of money is being spent by some of our old allies, namely the Palestinians — they are back, indirectly. We have to admit this," he said.

Palestinian commando groups were the strongest force in west Beirut until Israeli forces drove them out in 1982.

"We haven't yet reached the state of anarchy, but we are in the process of getting there. It seems that in west Beirut we like anarchy ... it's a jungle," Mr. Junblatt said.

Austrian minister meets Mubarak

CAIRO (R) — Austrian Foreign Minister Erwin Lang, on a three-day visit to Egypt, Sunday met President Hosni Mubarak, and after that the Middle East crisis could not be solved immediately because of the U.S. presidential and the Israeli parliamentary elections.

"We feel that the remaining period of 1984 should be used in preparing the grounds for a settlement of the Middle East and the Palestinian problems," he told reporters. "No initiative could be fruitful as the main partners are unable to make decisions."

Egyptian Foreign Minister Kamel Hassan Ali said Austria has always had a leading role to play in the search for a settlement of the Palestinian problem.

He said Egypt and Austria have agreed to use the remaining seven months of this year to prepare for negotiations or to seek other ways of reviving the peace efforts.

The two ministers later lunched together and attacked Israel's settlement policy in occupied Arab land.

"Israel's settlement policy on the West Bank tends to create an irreversible situation and jeopardise the future of the occupied territories," Mr. Lang said.

He said Austria policy on the Middle East remained based on support for the national rights of Palestinians, "including the right to a state of their own."

"Only if these rights are restored will a just and lasting solution be possible," he said.

Mr. Ali said Israel had failed to reciprocate Egypt's peace gestures and that its settlements in occupied Arab land were an obstacle to peace.

Mr. Lang is due to meet Egyptian Prime Minister Fouad Mubarak on Monday.

On Israel's continued occupation of Lebanese territory, Mr. Lang said upon arrival Saturday he did not know whether a solution was possible before the Israeli elections this summer.

"Unfortunately we have ongoing occupation in South Lebanon and I do not know whether withdrawal will take place... this needs increasing discussion and I prefer to wait until after the Israeli elections," he said.

Libyan forces kill rebel leader, JANA reports

BEIRUT (R) — Libyan security forces in Tripoli Saturday shot dead a guerrilla leader whose men were wiped out last Tuesday after occupying a building in the Libyan capital, the official Libyan News Agency JANA said Sunday.

The man, named as Wajdi Ash-Shwehdi, was hit while trying to escape from "Revolutionary Forces" who had discovered his hideout, the agency said.

JANA said on Tuesday that the guerrillas had taken women and children hostage. When they refused to surrender, security forces stormed the building and killed them.

Most other conspirators were arrested after the security forces found their names on the dead bodies of those in the building, it added.

Libyan exiles in London said the guerrillas, on a mission to assassinate Libyan Leader Muammar Qadhafi, were wiped out in a five-hour gunbattle during which they killed scores of Col. Qadhafi's personal bodyguards.

The official agency said Sunday that when the security forces came across Mr. Shwehdi they called on

him to give himself up. He ran away so they opened fire and killed him.

The agency gave no indication of Mr. Shwehdi's nationality and did not say where he was on Tuesday.

JANA repeated Libya's charge that the guerrillas were members of the fundamentalist Muslim Brotherhood, trained at camps in Sudan and later in Britain and the United States under the supervision of the British and American police.

The exiles' version of the Tuesday incident was that 15 guerrillas took over a small office facing the Tripoli barracks where Col. Qadhafi has his headquarters.

Foreign businessman in the Libyan capital confirmed that military police and troops had surrounded the attackers in a building close to the barracks.

King Hassan of Morocco has telephoned Col. Qadhafi to condemn the guerrilla operation on Tuesday and to express Morocco's support for Libya "in confronting all plots and terrorist acts," JANA said in a separate report later.

Luce calls on Qadhafi to re-assure Britons

TUNIS (R) — A British government minister Saturday called on Libyan Leader Muammar Qadhafi to take steps to re-assure Britons working in Libya if he wanted to continue doing business with Britain.

"It is up to the Libyan authorities, if they wish to continue to trade, to encourage British subjects to stay there in an atmosphere of peace," Minister of State at the Foreign Office Richard Luce told reporters during a visit to Tunis.

He said British detainees in Libya should either be charged or released, and he called on the Tripoli authorities to "stop making false accusations which are quite clearly ridiculous against the British government."

He said Britain was particularly concerned about the fate of two businessmen who had been detained in Libya since last month but not so far charged with any crime.

Col. Qadhafi has accused Britain, which broke off diplomatic relations after the shooting of a policeman outside the Libyan mission in London, of backing commandos who battled his sup-



Richard Luce

porters in Tripoli for several hours on Tuesday.

Mr. Luce made his remarks Saturday at the end of a tour of Morocco, Algeria and Tunisia to discuss recent relations between North African states and Britain and the European Community.

Relations between Tunisia and Libya, its neighbour to the east, have been strained by accusations that the guerrillas involved in Tuesday's shootout came from Tunisian territory.

Iran-backed group claims responsibility for Cyprus blast

DAMASCUS (R) — Underground Islamic groups claimed responsibility for a bomb blast in Nicosia early Saturday they said was aimed at the Iraqi Air Lines office in the Cyprus capital.

In Damascus, an anonymous caller told an international news agency by phone the "Islamic Action Organisation" group was responsible for the explosion in Nicosia.

The Iranian National News Agency IRNA, meanwhile, quoted a spokesman for the "Waj-

ahideen of the Islamic Revolution of Iraq" as claiming responsibility. Cypriot police in Nicosia said they were seeking two men for questioning in connection with the blast, in which four people were slightly injured.

Police said they were satisfied that the bomb, placed under a car near the airline office, had been aimed at the building. Eyewitnesses said the blast scorched walls and broke windows at the airline office and scattered debris over a wide area.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION
MAIN CHANNEL
17:30 Kuran
17:40 Carnivals
18:00 Children Programmes
18:30 I Can Jump Puddles
19:00 Programme review
19:30 Annual Forces Programme
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Local Programmes
20:40 Arabic Series
21:00 Arabic Documentary
22:30 Local Programme
23:00 News in Arabic
23:10 Local Programme Continued

FOREIGN CHANNEL
18:00 French Documentary: Les Vedettes du Maroc
18:30 Bon Appetit
19:00 News in French
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:30 The Blue and the Grey
21:00 Science International
21:30 Comedy: Dr. Al Large
22:00 News in English
22:15 News in French

RADIO JORDAN
855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM
& partly on 9560 KHz, SW

07:00 Light Music
07:30 News
08:00 Morning Show
09:00 News Summary
10:00 Morning Show
11:00 Pop Session
12:00 News Summary
12:05 Pop Session
13:00 News Summary
13:03 Pop Session
14:00 News Bulletin
14:30 Over a Cup of Tea
15:00 Concert Hour
16:00 News Summary
16:05 Instrumental
16:30 Old Showcases
17:00 Classical Music
17:30 Pop Session
18:00 News Summary
18:05 Sports Round-up
18:30 Arabian Nights
19:00 News
19:30 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show
21:00 News Summary
21:05 News Summary
21:30 News Summary
23:00 News Summary
24:00 News Headlines

WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS
* Australian graphic art Donalce Patterson at Alfa Art Gallery.
* "Jordan 1984" an exhibition of paintings at the French Cultural Centre at 6:00 p.m.
* An exhibition by Mr. Michel Lecomte at the Royal Cultural Centre from May 7 and May 15.

Video-Cinema
* Les amies 30: Abel Gance at the French Cultural Centre at 4:00 p.m.

CULTURAL CENTRES
Royal Cultural Centre . Tel. 661026/7
American Centre . 44371
American Centre Library . 41520
British Council . 36147-5
French Cultural Centre . 37009
Goethe Institute . 41993
Soviet Cultural Centre . 44203
Spanish Cultural Centre . 24049
Turkish Cultural Centre . 39777
Haya Arts Centre . 665195
Husseini Youth City . 667181
Y.W.C.A. . 41793
Y.W.M.C.A. . 664251
American Municipal Library . 36111
University of Jordan Library . 843555

MUSEUMS
Folklore Museum: Jewelry and costumes over 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash 14th to 18th centuries. The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. Year-round. Tel. 51760.
Jordan Archaeological Museum: Has an excellent collection of the antiquities of Jordan. Jabal Al Qal'a (Citadel Hill). Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m. (Fridays and official holidays 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.). Closed Tuesdays.
Jordan National Gallery: Contains a collection of paintings, ceramics, and sculpture by contemporary Islamic artists from most of the Muslim countries and a collection of paintings by 19th Century orientalist artists. Muntazah, Jabal

FOR THE TRAVELLER

AMMAN AIRPORT

This information is supplied by Alia information department at the Queen Alia International Airport tel. (04) 53250, where it should always be verified.

ARRIVALS
07:05 Cairo (MS)
09:15 Dubai, Abu Dhabi (RJ)
09:30 Amman (RJ)
09:45 Muscat, Bahrain (RJ)
09:45 Kuwait (RJ)
10:00 Dhahran (RJ)
11:20 Istanbul, Athens (TK)
12:30 Muscat, Oubai, Bahrain (GFI)
14:00 Kuwait (KU)
15:10 Jeddah, Medina (SV)
15:10 Belgrade, Istanbul (JU)
17:00 Athens (RJ)
17:30 New York, Vienna (3F)
18:30 Cairo (RJ)
18:30 Bangkok (RJ)
20:05 Casablanca, Tunis (RJ)
22:30 Cairo (MS)
00:45 Cairo (RJ)
00:45 Baghdad (IA)
01:00 London, Baghdad (BA)

DEPARTURES
05:45 Cairo (RJ)
07:15 Amman (RJ)
08:30 Athens (OA)
11:00 Amsterdam, New York (RJ)
11:30 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GFI)
11:30 Vienna, Chicago, Los Angeles (RJ)
12:00 London (RJ)
12:15 Frankfurt, Copenhagen (RJ)
12:30 Istanbul, Bucharest (RJ)
12:30 Ankara, Istanbul (TK)
13:30 Bahrain, Abu Dhabi, Muscat (GFI)
14:30 Kuwait (KU)
16:25 Istanbul, Belgrade (JU)
16:40 Medina, Jeddah (SV)
19:30 Kuwait, Dubai (RJ)
19:45 Bahrain, Doha (RJ)

PRAYER TIMES
03:04 Fajr
04:38 Sunrise
11:32 Dhuhr
15:13 Asr
18:27 Maghreb
19:59 Isha

USEFUL TELEPHONE NOS.

EMERGENCIES
Ambulance . 193, 75111
Fire, police, etc. . 44201-4
Blood bank . 75121
Civil Defence rescue . 661111
Fire headquarters . 23909-3
Police rescue . 192, 2111, 3777
Police headquarters . 39141
Traffic police . 56390-1
Electric Power Co. . 36381-0
Municipal water service . 71125-8
Queen Alia Int. Airport . (08) 53533

HOSPITALS
Hussein Medical Centre . R13813-32
Khaldi Maternity, J. Amman . 44201-4
Jabal Amman Maternity . 42441
Jabal Amman Maternity . 42362
Malinas, J. Amman . 36140
Palestine, Shamsani . 664171-4
Shamsani Hospital . 843645
University Hospital . 843645
Der Al-Shifa, J. Hussein . 667158
Al-Muhsar Hospital . 667227-9
The Islamic, Abdali . 664164
Al-Ahli, Abdali . 77101-3
Italian, Al-Muhajreh . 75111
Al-Bashir, J. Ashrafieh . 75111
Army, Marka . 91611

IRIBD
Dr. Hani Anaqri . ()
Al-Awlad pharmacy . 2357

ZARQA:
Dr. Mohammad T. Keilan . ()
Jaber Ibn Hayyan pharmacy . ()

GENERAL
Jordan Television . 73111
Radio Jordan . 74111
Ministry of Tourism . 42311
Hotel complaints . 66612
Price complaints . 661176
Telephone: Information . 12
Jordan and Middle East calls . 10
Overseas calls . 17
Cable or telegram . 18
Repair service . 11

MARKET PRICES

Upper/lower price in fils per kg.
Banana . 200 / 150
Marrow (small) . 330 / 250
Mandarin . 230 / 200
Beans . 320 / 250
Broad Beans . 230 / 200
Cabbage . 60 / 40
Carni . 130 / 100
Cauliflower (white) . 230 / 200
Chick peas . 120 / 100
Cucumber (large) . 200 / 150
Cucumber (small) . 300 / 250
Eggplant (large) . 140 / 100
Eggplant (small) . 140 / 100
Garlic . 360 / 300
Grapefruit . 200 / 150
Green Almonds . 180 / 150
Lemon . 190 / 160
Mallow . 500 / 450
Marrow (large) . 200 / 150
Marrow (small) . 330 / 250
Mandarin . 230 / 200
Beans . 320 / 250
Broad Beans . 230 / 200
Cabbage . 60 / 40
Carni . 130 / 100
Cauliflower (white) . 230 / 200
Chick peas . 120 / 100
Cucumber (large) . 200 / 150
Cucumber (small) . 300 / 250
Eggplant (large) . 140 / 100
Eggplant (small) . 140 / 100
Garlic . 360 / 300
Grapefruit . 200 / 150
Green Almonds . 180 / 150
Lemon . 190 / 160
Mallow . 500 / 450

Lower House to debate press law amendments

AMMAN (J.T.) — A motion submitted to the government by 27 members of the Lower House of Parliament on amendments to the Press and Publications Law and the government's replies to earlier proposals by parliament on fishing in Saudi Arabian and Egyptian Red Sea waters will be among the topics on the lower house's agenda at its meeting Tuesday.

Also up for discussion is the question of forming political parties in Jordan and allowing more democratic freedoms for the public along with other domestic issues.

Al Ra'i newspaper said that parliament will also discuss such issues as the establishment of a Shar'a (Islamic Law) Faculty at Yarmouk University improving the conditions of inmates at reformatory and rehabilitation centres and measures taken to alleviate the effects of this year's drought in the southern regions of Jordan.

RSS to produce study on role of municipalities

AMMAN (Petra) — The Royal Scientific Society (RSS) is currently preparing a study on the role of the municipalities in development.

The director of the RSS's Economic Department, Dr. Mohammad Al-Saidi, said that recent surveys revealed that the municipalities total revenues for 1982 amounted to JD 25.4 million while their overall expenditure reached JD 25.8 million.

The figures, he said, reflect the important role which municipalities and village councils can play in improving local societies' social and economic standards.

The projected study is bound to highlight the municipalities' role in promoting public services and underlining their importance in local government affairs, Dr. Al-Saidi said.

He added that such a study will also explain means of covering municipalities' budget deficits and finding new ways of ensuring further revenue to finance public projects and other expenditure.

Water Authority clinches loan for treatment plant

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Arrangements by the Water Authority (WA) to acquire a loan of \$10 million from Jordanian banks to finance the construction of a wastewater treatment plant has been finalised, according to a top official at the authority.

Director of Finance Omar Yahya told the Jordan Times that the Arab Bank will lead manage the loan, which will include local and foreign banks, here to finance the project at Al-Khazirah Al-Samra to the north of Zarqa.

The loan agreement will be signed by the end of this month, according to WA President Mohammad Khatib.

The project, which is being executed by the Turkish firm GAMA, is expected to cost JD 16.25 million.

Job seekers rise by 92 per cent in 1983

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordanians seeking jobs through the Ministry of Labour's employment offices numbered 5,569 last year, registering a 92 per cent increase over the previous year's figures, according to a report just published by the ministry.

The report attributes the causes of this unemployment to a slackening of local business and production, the current world recession, and the return home of a considerable number of Jordanian workers from abroad, especially from the Gulf states.

Also, according to the report, there were nearly 120,000 foreign workers in Jordan at the end of 1983, a factor which exacerbated unemployment among local workers.

Most of job seekers have had a poor education and are concentrated mainly in the Amman, Zarqa and Aqaba areas, while those holding diplomas or degrees from universities or community colleges are concentrated in Amman, the report added.

However, the report continued, most of these job seekers are married and support families.

The report said that the Ministry of Labour is striving to find work for those submitting applications to it through its employment offices around the country.

NOTICE

I, Elzamma Thomas, holder of Indian Passport No. T 258425 issued at Jaipur on 21.10.1982, hereby change my maiden name to Mrs. Elzamma Abraham Andoor, with effect from today.

PASSPORT LOST

I, Mohammad Ashraf lost my Pakistani Passport AK 344143 in Amman. If found please report to the Pakistan Embassy or the nearest police station.

Environment debate leads to closer ties

By Anne Connell
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A variety of topical and important subjects were discussed Sunday during a seminar on "Present Aspects of German-Jordanian Scientific Co-operation in Environmental Sciences," held at the Royal Cultural Centre under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Jordanian and German experts in various scientific fields, Jordanian students who have studied in Germany and specialists in education attended the final day of the two-day seminar organised by the Royal Scientific Society (RSS) and the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), in co-operation with the University of Jordan, Yarmouk University, the Goethe Institute, the German Agency for Technical Co-operation (GTZ) and the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany.

During his opening address Saturday, Prince Hassan emphasised the need for a closer link between academia and the community, an important point that was actively taken up Sunday.

Two papers dealing with infection and hospital hygiene included academic research and statistics together with practical and constructive ideas for the improvement of sanitation.

Also, a discussion between DAAD representatives and the participants focussed on assessing priorities for higher education according to the needs of Jordan, another important point highlighted by Prince Hassan in his speech.

During the final day, papers dealing with the environment and archaeology in general and with reference to Jordan were also presented.

The subject of environmental sciences, which includes many scientific disciplines, is very broad but the seminar succeeded in covering many aspects including water resources, solar energy and health.

Hospital hygiene

Professor Hans-Gunther Sonntag from the Hygiene Institute at the University of Heidelberg, highlighted the importance of disinfectants to minimise the spread of infection.

During his lecture, Professor Sonntag discussed the introduction of antibiotic therapy and the development of micro-organisms causing infectious diseases in man. The changing patterns of disease, geographical outbreaks and infection carriers were mentioned in relation to typhoid fever, cholera, dysentery and tuberculosis.

The increased importance of poliomyelitis and hepatitis over the past two decades was linked to a decreasing natural immunity in children thereby causing a more severe reaction in adults. Professor Sonntag said that the organisms found in the upper respiratory tract, on the skin, in the colon and around the urogenital tract of man are today responsible for 90 to 95 per cent of all infectious diseases.

These organisms also play an important role in hospital infections where patients undergoing treatment in a hospital may acquire an infectious disease, said Professor Sonntag. The increase in hospital disease has been attributed to increasingly complicated surgery, chemotherapy and a reliance on antibiotics for treatment.

Hygienic measures of sterilisation, disinfection and sanitation were cited as necessary steps to reduce the spread of infection within hospitals. An outline of chemical disinfectants and their applications were also presented.

The subject of hospital acquired infections, drug resistance in microbes and infection control was also pursued by Dr. Jalal Haddadin, a consultant microbiologist at the King Hussein Medical Centre (KHMC). Dr. Haddadin outlined the history of antibiotic development and the corresponding resistance to the drugs by microbes.

A study made at the KHMC over the past seven years revealed an increasing resistance of bacteria to commonly used antibiotics. Dr. Haddadin emphasised the need for surveillance programmes to monitor nosocomial infections and the importance of appointing infection control committees in Jordanian hospitals.

Archaeology, environment
The subject of archaeology and the environment raised several points that are applicable to life today as well as in the past, such as the exploitation of natural resources for development.

Professor Dr. Hans-Joachim Nissen from the Free University of Berlin cited examples of non-destructive and destructive interactions between man and the environment during the course of man's development.

The availability of water, wood and other resources as well as favourable environmental conditions were reasons for the establishment of early settlements, said Prof. Nissen, and that the depletion of such resources through over exploitation caused the abandonment of the settlements.

The need for research into natural resources is of great importance, he said, as the damage that man can do to the environment can take hundreds of years to be corrected, as in deforestation, and may also be irreparable.

Human settlements in Jordan and changes in the population of the country since 8,000 years B.C. were discussed by Professor Muawiyah Ibrahim from Yarmouk University using data from archaeological surveys. The repeated cycles of growth and decline were responses to environmental changes, said Professor Ibrahim.

Discussing the archaeological heritage as part of Jordan's environment, Professor Ibrahim said that because archaeological sites tend to be located in favourable sites for development, modern economic development indiscriminately removes these archaeological sites.

He illustrated the point with slides of 120 second and third century graves that were bulldozed in a three week period for construction purposes. Education, relating to the German-Jordanian exchange programme operated by DAAD was also discussed at the seminar.

Professor Hansgerd Schulte, president of DAAD, outlined the organisations promoting science and research in Germany and described the activities of the DAAD, a non-governmental organisation representing all German universities.

"The aim of DAAD is to fit in with the educational needs of its partner countries", said Dr. Schulte.

The DAAD president and Middle East representatives from DAAD outlined five points to further promote German-Jordanian co-operation.

1) The discussion of priorities in the fields of education and scientific research and the types of exchange programmes appropriate to these needs.

2) The need for feedback regarding the development and progress of graduate programmes under the priorities system.

3) Mutual recognition of degrees obtained from German and Jordanian universities.

4) The possible introduction of "sandwich courses" enabling students to receive part of their education abroad and part in Jordan. This system could also further promote German-Jordanian co-operation through a closer liaison of departments.

5) The possibility of teaching German as a foreign language as a preparation for students to continue their studies in Germany with fewer adjustment problems.

These recommendations and suggestions were discussed with Prince Hassan at the close of the seminar.

Rydbeck to give agency's final offer in next 48 hours

UNRWA teachers salary dispute enters crucial stage

By Afifah A. Kaloti
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The commissioner-general of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees (UNRWA), Olof Rydbeck, will announce within the next two days the results of the agency's teachers' salary review, according to the Director of UNRWA affairs in Jordan, Per Olof Hallqvist.

Mr. Hallqvist, who returned to Jordan Saturday after attending the agency's field director's staff meeting in Vienna on May 11 under the chairmanship of the acting commissioner-general Robert Dillon, told the Jordan Times that the recent salary surveys in the Gaza Strip, West Bank, Syria and Jordan as well as the recommendations submitted by the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC) were discussed during the meeting.

The ICSC several months ago conducted a survey on teachers' salaries at the request of the UNRWA central office.

The teachers, who rejected the survey for nearly five years, agreed recently to take part in the survey so that their salaries could be adjusted, taking into account the successive cost of living increases.

The ICSC, after conducting the

survey, proposed increases in the teachers' salaries ranging from between 18 to 25 per cent, but the results were contested by the agency.

According to a memorandum of understanding between the agency's staff union and the commissioner-general agreed upon in 1979, the latter normally accepts recommendations on certain issues and the staff in turn accept the commissioner-general's decisions.

Mr. Rydbeck, who was in Jordan last week, told the Jordan Times regarding the salary survey that "the problem now is that I cannot believe that the government and the labour market have increased salaries as suggested by the survey in such huge percentages."

To that effect, Mr. Rydbeck suggested the meeting be held in Vienna to analyse the survey and hence making a final decision.

However, Mr. Hallqvist said that the final decision has not yet been taken because Mr. Rydbeck was on a fund-raising mission to Scandinavia. He was expected, on his scheduled return to Vienna Monday, to review the recommendations of the field directors meeting leading a final decision.

Mr. Hallqvist said that a number of possible alternatives were thoroughly discussed during the meeting but refused to go into the details of these because "all has now been left to the commissioner-general to choose."

"One encouraging thing about the meeting was that we were all on the same side for we knew that the commissioner-general is committed to the staff's rise in the salary," he said.

"It is not a question of UNRWA trying to cheat its staff," he said, "for we have a terrible cumulative deficit on our budget of over \$50 million."

Mr. Hallqvist pointed out that the cost of the ICSC recommendations for this year is \$30 million which "adds to our deficit and hence it will not be easy to balance the whole thing."

Mr. Hallqvist said in conclusion that the UNRWA office in Jordan expects to receive the final results in a cable either Monday or Tuesday and will then release the results in a press communique.

Labour minister to head team to ILO conference

AMMAN (Petra) — The cabinet Sunday picked Jordan's delegation to the annual conference of the International Labour Organisation (ILO), which is due to be held in Geneva from June 6 to 27.

The delegation, which will be led by Labour Minister Tayseer Abdul Jabbar, will also attend an Arab labour ministers meeting which will be also held in Geneva on June 4.

Door stays closed on importation of apples

AMMAN (J.T.) — The government has no intention of opening the door to the importation of apples since local apples will soon be in season, according to a report in Al Ra'i Arabic daily newspaper Sunday.

It said that the local production of apples is expected to meet the needs of domestic consumption despite the fact that Jordanian apples will not be in abundance when imports of foreign apples are available.

According to the paper, Agriculture Minister Mohammad Bashir has set up a standing committee on imports and exports of agricultural products.

This committee will be in charge of determining the types and amounts of agricultural products to be imported or exported including those that come to the East Bank from the occupied West Bank, the paper added.

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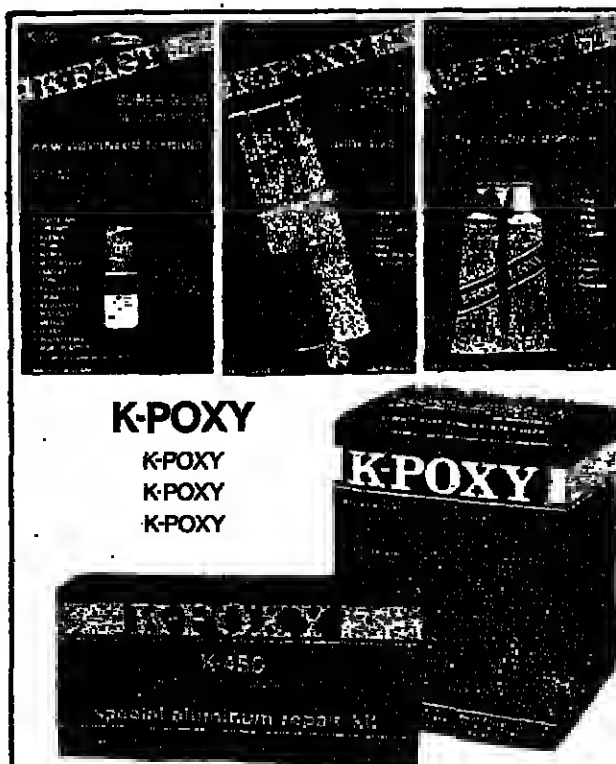
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India-U.S.: More than a passing misunderstanding

By Dr. John Muttam

INDIA AND the United States never seem to feel weary of declaring time and again their intentions to improve mutual relations by exploring new areas of co-operation and understanding. So far, let good-will visits and declarations apart, Indo-U.S. relations continue to remain static and lukewarm. The visit by U.S. Vice-President George Bush, to the Indian capital has started and will finish with much fanfare along predictable lines, but there can be little prospect of any radical amelioration in their relationship in the foreseeable future. The world's two greatest democracies are not exactly hostile to each other. But what makes them stop at peripheral relations without ever striving for more substantive ones is that their political world-views are at variance with each other.

World domination

After World War II, the United States emerged as a world power, relegating Britain to a secondary place. After centuries of "splendid isolation" in world politics, the U.S. assumed for itself a global role, aimed at world domination. Particularly, it began to interfere in the developing nations of Asia and Africa's affairs often to influence and shape up events there as part of its global interests. India was opposed to any power gaining hegemony in the developing world.

In the early fifties for example, Mr. Walter Robertson, the then-assistant secretary of state, stated before the House Appropriations Subcommittee that the U.S. should dominate Asia for an indefinite period of time and pose a military threat against Communist China until it broke up internally. Reacting to this statement, India's prime minister, the late Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, remarked in the parliament: "It is known that India's policy in regard to the people's government of China differs from that of the United States. We have recognised this government and have friendly relations with it. Our two policies, therefore, in this respect are wholly opposed to each other. Whatever the objective may be, the countries of Asia, and certainly India, do not accept this policy and do not propose to be dominated by any country for whatever purpose." The U.S. viewed with displeasure the friendly relations between India and China.

India's support for China's right to membership in the U.N. was unambiguous. But the U.S. constantly vetoed it. However, the first Chinese nuclear explosion in the early sixties brought about a change in U.S. attitude to China. The U.S. not only welcomed China's entry into the U.N. but also began to rediscover China, helped, of course, by the gains of ping-pong diplomacy and reinforced by Dr. Kissinger's secret diplomacy, which in the end paved the way for President Richard Nixon to visit Peking in 1972. Since then, the U.S. has not failed to look for opportunities to play the China card against the Soviet Union. Whatever the U.S. motives may be for cultivating friendship with China, there is continued resistance in U.S. domination in the Third World. The U.S. debacles in Vietnam, Iran, Latin America, Lebanon etc., do not invariably prove the point.

Cold war politics

The U.S. in the fifties formulated the containment policy, the essential characteristic of which was to protect what came to be known as the "defense perimeter" of the United States. Through the "ring theory" the U.S. was trying to attract political allies in South and South-East Asia in a bid to strengthen its forces against the Soviet Union and China.

The strategic position of the Indian Sub-Continent was considered eminently suited to thwart any possible Soviet expansionism towards the Indian Ocean. However, from the start, India's opposition to such a grand strategy was very clear. India's declared policy of non-alignment ran counter to the U.S. policy of bloc-building around the world. Hence, it incurred the ire of the United States, in whose thinking India was not an autonomous centre of power of any consequence in South Asia and its own non-aligned policy was dubbed as immoral by the then-Secretary of State John Foster Dulles.

The U.S. succeeded, however, in inducing Pakistan to join the Baghdad Pact (later CENTO) in 1955, exploiting to the maximum the hangover of Indo-Pakistan hostilities at the time of partition. Pakistan's view of the U.S. alliance system was not wholly in agreement with that of the U.S.A. The reason d'être of Pakistan's entry into the military pact was explained by the late Mohammad Ayub Khan, who himself vouched his close association with the Baghdad pact. He said: "My interest was exclusively in terms of the defence of my country. I was anxious to take advantage of this arrangement (pact) to build up the defence force of Pakistan. After all, India is five times our size and the Indian armed forces are four times the size of Pakistani forces. In actual fact, the military aid to Pakistan was designed to provide merely a deterrent force."

Whatever the motivations of either the U.S. or Pakistan, the military alliance forged between the two acted as a catalyst in transforming a primal conflict between India and Pakistan into an endless military confrontation and recurring wars. Besides, it provided an opportunity for the U.S. to needlessly involve itself at will in sub-continental affairs, spawning greater tension and instability. The U.S. still "believes" that arming Pakistan serves the cause of peace in South Asia, despite the fact that Pakistan has abjured the military alliance (now it is non-aligned) which proved totally ineffective during the Bangladesh war of 1971.

From the Indian point of view, the U.S.-Pakistan military relationship, begun in 1954, is an institutionalised impediment on the way to improving Indo-U.S. relations.

Indian Ocean power rivalry

The U.S. policy of intense militarisation of the Indian Ocean is in sharp conflict with India's advocacy of the Indian Ocean as a zone of peace. Diego Garcia, a coral island, scarcely a thousand kilometres from the southern tip of India, has been developed into a gigantic U.S. naval base; its harbours can accommodate aircraft carriers and nuclear submarines; and its airfields can permit big nuclear weapon carrying bombers to take off and land. Besides, the U.S. debacle in

Iran at the wake of the popular revolution in 1978-79, prompted the Carter administration to develop what is known as the Rapid Deployment Force (RDF). Its objective is to provide an instantaneous intervention capability anywhere in the Arab Gulf. The Soviet military presence in Afghanistan, the Iran-Iraq war, the Iranian threat to block the Hormuz Straits etc. have lent additional impetus to the Reagan administration to strengthen the RDF. India, along with other Indian Ocean littoral states, has been voicing its concern over this presence of U.S. naval forces in the area.

The unobtrusive induction of increased U.S. naval forces into the Indian Ocean has invited the Soviet Union too to increase its presence there. And the superpower rivalry goes on unabated, threatening the freedom, peace and security of the region.

Palestine problem

India and the U.S. maintain divergent views on the crucial problem of Palestine. The present plight of the Palestinians has its origin in the Balfour Declaration which said: "His Majesty's government viewed with favour the establishment in Palestine of a national home for the Jewish people and will use their best endeavours to facilitate the achievement of this subject." It was signed by the then-British Foreign Secretary Arthur James Balfour, and a leading Zionist, Edmond de Rothschild. In 1948, the U.N. decided to end the British mandate and to partition Palestine. The Arabs and a few sympathisers, like India, voted against the partition plan. The Palestinians refused to accept the partition plan and fought

against it. India demanded that Israel should vacate aggression on Palestine. However, helped by the Jewish lobby around the world, particularly in Western Europe and the United States, the Jews established the state of Israel.

The U.S. policy ever since has been one of militarisation of Israel. The Palestinians' right in self-determination is of no concern for the U.S. Washington refuses even to have a political dialogue with the PLO, the official representative organisation of the Palestinians, let alone its readiness to recognise their rights. The U.S. strives by every means to get the Palestinian issue sidetracked and frozen, providing a nuptial tie for Israel to consolidate its stranglehold on Arab land. As against this lopsided U.S. policy, India has time and again voiced its protest and remains firmly committed to support the just cause of the Palestinians.

Logically one can see that some of these fundamentally opposed approaches to international relations lie at the root of the differences between India and the U.S. These cannot just be wished away. High level visits have their significance, but they cannot bring about spectacular changes in Indo-U.S. relations. As was the case of Mr. Shultz's visit a year ago, Mr. Bush's current visit to India would turn out to be another routine diplomatic ritual, symbolising a state of mutual relationship which will continue to be "neither cold nor hot."

The writer is an Indian scholar who currently lives in Amman. He wrote two books on U.S.-Pakistan-India relations and *U.S. arms and security in the Gulf*. He contributes this article to the *Jordan Times*.

New form of resistance

THE announcement in Israel Sunday of the formation of an Arab list of candidates to run for the Knesset elections as independents cannot be considered only as an election issue which is designed to obtain a number of seats as is the case with other Israeli political parties. Concentrating on the form of it is to simplify matters. It is therefore worthwhile to look into the real motives that are behind the formation of the Arab bloc.

It is true that the list of five people announced Sunday includes two Jews and it is true that the representatives of 700,000 Palestinian Arabs were unanimous in their endorsement of the Arab list in the light of the general conditions of the people under occupation; yet, the head of the list, lawyer Mohammad M'ari, gave an explanation to this by saying that the inclusion of Jews in the list was imposed by circumstances pertaining to the conditions of Palestinians living in occupied Palestine and their relations with the rule under which they live.

He said that the two Jews included in the list support the same principles which the list is adopting and that they support the rights of the Palestinians and call for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Arab lands.

What we are interested in here is not the form of the list as much as the circumstances which led to its formation. These cannot be separated from the Arab-Israeli conflict as such.

Ever since the establishment of the Israeli state in Palestine the Arabs had never been allowed the opportunity to form a separate election list of their own. As this list is formed for the first time now and under the present conditions, the step must have come as a direct result of the circumstances that created the atmosphere for political activity in Arab circles, which focused on the search for a practical way that can express the Arab rejection of the attempts by Jews to manipulate the Arab vote.

Second, almost all effective Israeli parties with their political platforms and classifications, whether hawks or doves have agreed on one thing and that is to continue their persecution of the Arabs in their own homeland and to transform them into a minority against which all forms of subjugation and repression can be practiced. Third, the massacres the Israeli army or its clients are carrying out against the Arabs, whether in Palestine or Lebanon. In this the Israelis can never differentiate between Arabs living in Palestine occupied since 1948 and the occupied West Bank or the victims who fell in the Sabra and Shatila refugee camps in Beirut. The Arabs hear everyday statements by Zionist leaders revealing the lust of aggression against whatever is Arab. Take for example the statement by Raphael Eitan, the former army chief of staff, who once said that the good Arab is the dead Arab; and also Sharon, the former defence minister, who once called for the bombardment of Arab cities and villages when the Israelis saw a need for such an action.

So, what happened Sunday could be explained as another form of Arab resistance against Israel's aggression and occupation of Arab land. It reflects the Palestinians' continued determination not to let the Israelis have an easy go at their rights and aspirations.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: Why blame others?

NO DOUBT continued lack of joint Arab action and unified efforts to reach a Middle East peaceful settlement is impeding all peace efforts in this respect by the European Community. This was clearly pointed out by Prime Minister Ahmad 'Obaidat in his recent television interview with the press, in which he said that divisions among Arab states and their indifference to the current developments in the region have prompted the Europeans to give statements that can be described as "tranquilisers" to quiet us down, but no actual effort to help us reach peace.

In the interview, the prime minister was candid enough with the Arab countries, which he described as lacking positive action and characterised by indifference to events in the region. We wonder how long the Arab states will continue to act in this manner and to leave things as they are. We wonder how long Arab leaders will continue to shirk their national responsibilities and leave the occupied territories and their Arab inhabitants under Israeli control.

It is unreasonable to wait for help from Europe or anywhere else while the Arabs are in disarray, and unable to agree on a joint stand with regard to their common issue and common objectives. It is also unacceptable at all to go on blaming others for our plight while our leaders fail to shoulder their responsibilities and fail to heed the warnings of danger that threaten the whole region.

Al Dustour: Joint effort needed

JORDAN'S SUPPORT for a U.N. sponsored idea of holding an international conference to discuss the Middle East issue reflects a firm Jordanian principle based on international law, which prohibits world nations from seizing other countries' land by use of force.

No doubt, Jordan's support underlines its conviction that the Middle East conflict should be solved through the implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338, and that the United Nations is the best forum for resolving international disputes.

But as Jordan supports the idea it realises that for this conference to be convened a United Arab stand and solidarity among Arab states are essential. This country is seeking in advance to make such a conference, if convened, a success by trying to pave the way for such solidarity and joint Arab strategy.

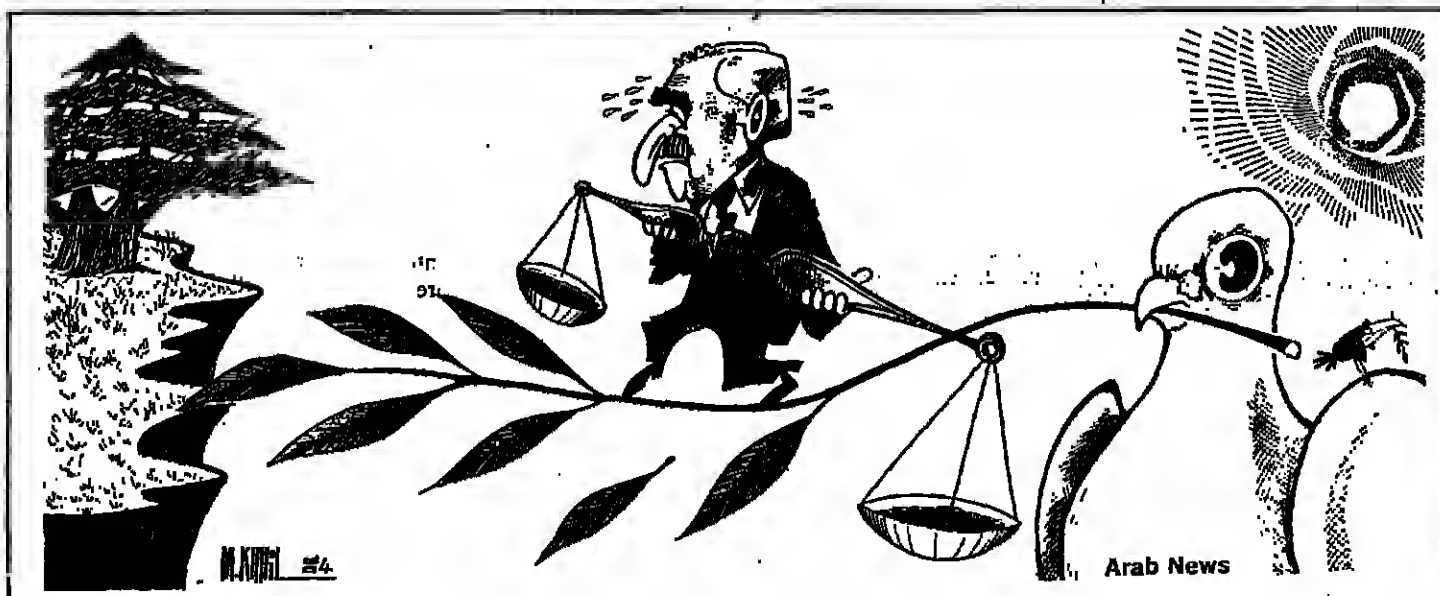
In view of the failure of U.S. policies in the region and Washington's lack of will to restrain its ally from carrying out its aggressive policies, such a conference is deemed necessary. But whether the conference would succeed or not, or whether it will be convened at all remains to be seen. However, Jordan, which believes that an international effort is now needed to tackle the Middle East issue, is also convinced that a concerted Arab effort in the international front and a unified Arab stand can have weight in international circles and can help make international efforts a success.

Sawt Al Shaab: For a U.N. conference

PARTIAL SOLUTIONS for Middle East issues have so far failed, and if anything at all they have further aggravated the situation. An example of such partial solutions is the Camp David agreement between Israel and Egypt, which is now almost frozen as it has proved incapable of establishing a comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

Initiatives coming from the United States, like the Rogers plan of the late sixties and the Reagan peace proposals, along with the European Community's Venice Declaration have also proved a failure since they have not given us any peace and have not fulfilled the aspirations of the peoples in the region. In the light of this situation, the United Nations has called anew for convening an international conference to try to resolve the whole issue on firm and just basis.

The idea of the U.N. holding such a peace conference came to reflect a conviction among world nations that such a chronic conflict can only be solved by a global effort in which the superpowers along with parties concerned can discuss the conflict, and with the help of other nations can find a formula for a comprehensive peace based on justice. This call ought to be supported by all nations, since it is now designed to solve one of the most complicated issues the world has ever known, and is aimed at establishing peace in one of the most sensitive areas of the world.



Democracy waits for General Zia

A confrontation is building up between Pakistan's political parties and General Zia over the country's constitutional future. John Elliott, recently in Islamabad, reports.

A POTENTIALLY major confrontation is building up in Pakistan between the country's officially defunct political parties and Gen. Zia Ul Haq, its martial law president.

It concerns the constitutional balance that should be struck when President Zia moves—as he has said he will—to restore an element of elective democracy to national life.

The outcome will affect the political stability of the country which, bordering Iran, Afghanistan, China and India, occupies an extremely delicate geopolitical position.

Widespread, and sometimes violent, demonstrations were held last autumn by opposition parties to protest against the martial law regime.

Gen. Zia, who has ruled since 1977, when he ousted the civilian regime of Prime Minister Zulfikar Ali Bhutto, pledged last August that civilian rule would be restored by next March.

However, the General, who has cancelled proposed elections on three occasions since taking power, has not said yet precisely how or when the polls should take place.

He clearly favours a system which would include elections on a non-party basis with government-vetted candidates, a powerful president (probably himself, despite denials he has been issuing lately) and an overall army supervisory authority, operated through a national security council.

The key question being asked in Pakistan is whether the country's dozen main secular and religious-based parties can combine effectively enough to force him—peacefully or violently—to introduce more democracy into the plans.

The politicians realise that if they lose the moment—and a non-party, army controlled system is established—their parties

could be out in the cold for many years to come.

A stable political system has eluded Pakistan since its partition from neighbouring India at independence more than 35 years ago. If, therefore, President Zia managed to bring in stability and a measure of democracy, albeit with a continuing army presence, this would be welcomed by the U.S., the country's main ally.

Washington, which sees Pakistan as a bulwark against the Soviet Union into south Asia, has been providing a five-year \$3.2 billion aid package of arms and economic assistance since the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan.

The main opponents of Gen. Zia include the left-of-centre Pakistan People's Party (PPP), formerly led by Mr. Bhutto, who was executed by the martial law regime. The PPP is now led by Mr. Bhutto's daughter Benazir, who is now living in London, having been released in January by Gen. Zia from house arrest in Pakistan.

On the right stand several Islamic parties, including the Jamaat-Islami (JI), which until recently backed Gen. Zia. It is now flirting with the PPP, which it normally shuns.

In a move which has hit the JI, Gen. Zia outlawed all student unions earlier this year, and this led to widespread rioting. The clamp-down has affected the JI's student wing, which controls many universities.

Despite the riots, and a rough reception he received recently from students in the city of Peshawar, President Zia is widely thought to have made an astute move by curbing the party-based students' union in advance of the battle with the political parties proper.

He has also won grudging praise from moderates for tackling university anarchy and for moving himself more into the middle ground by dissociating himself from the JI's Islamic right wing.

The restrictive nature of the Zia regime, with its strong Islamic influence, has gone some way to placate strict Muslims of both the main Sunni and minority Shi'ite Muslim sects. But it does not appeal either to the urban elite or the mass of the rural population, who belong to the more mystical Barelvi branch of the dominant Sunni.

Critics say that Gen. Zia—widely regarded as a genuinely religious man—has used Islam to divert attention from military aspects of his rule by initiating a debate on controversial Islamic issues like the punishment to be meted out to a head of family who kills his grandson, a woman needing four on-the-spot male witnesses to prove she has been raped, and an eye-for-an-eye form of punishment for bodily harm.

Even among the Islamic right-wing he faces opposition. "Zia has made no real progress with Islamisation in seven years so why should we trust what he says he will do now?" says Maulana Shah Noorani, a powerful Karachi-based religious figure who is president of the Jamiat Ulema Pakistan (JUP) and a strong Zia opponent.

"Islamisation here is only on paper," says Mian Tufail Muhammad, president of JI.

"Plans for Islamic banking in this country are being set on by Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan, the finance minister, who should resign if he does not believe he can introduce an Islamic system in our country as President Zia promised in 1979."

The grumble here is that the government has only introduced limited forms of Islamic taxes and of Islamic banking, in which no interest is paid to investors.

There are also criticisms to Gen. Zia's political interpretation of the laws of Islam which, he says, rejects any notion of sustained opposition in political life and also limits the type of people he will allow to stand and vote in elections.

"Drunkards, auditors, thieves, dacoits (bandits), smugglers, cattle lifters, and all anti-state and anti-social elements will not be allowed to stand," he declared recently, foreshadowing an apparent intention to turn the elections into what Benazir Bhutto has dubbed "selections".

"The name of Islam is being exploited by the present regime to extend martial law," says Professor Ghafoor of Karachi, who leads the JI's anti-Zia wing.

Gen. Zia remains strikingly self-confident, given several months of often violent disturbances last autumn, and the uncovering of a suspected coup in January.

He has strengthened his position by reshuffling his generals and has removed a symbol of army repression by allowing Benazir Bhutto to leave house arrest.

Against this background, the country is now waiting for the General to make his election announcement.

He has already said all political prisoners will be released before the poll, and a government spokesman says Benazir Bhutto is almost certain to be allowed freely back into the country.

But critics have suggested that violent demonstrations following a release of prisoners might provide him with justification for cancelling elections yet again.

Politics in Pakistan will move into a new unpredictable phase once he has made his announcement. Any overall unity forged by then between the political parties is likely to fragment. The PPP, the Tehrik-I-Istiqal and other secular parties will want to boycott the elections, possibly using force. Other parties will want a peaceful boycott or, like the JI, will probably let their members take part as individuals.

The effectiveness of the opposition will depend on how much ground work the parties' leaders do in the coming weeks. "If all the political leaders go abroad to escape the Pakistan summer, as some are already planning to do, we shall not achieve the results we want," says Mr. Asaf Vardug, leader of Tehrik-I-Istiqal. "Then the generals will win."—Financial Times news feature.

Spain and the Mideast

Following are excerpts from an article by Ambassador of Spain to Jordan E. Menendez del Valle, published recently in the Spanish "El Pais" daily.

"THE JORDANIAN establishment, including His Majesty King Hussein, has warned for some months now of its disenchantment with American policies on the Middle East.

This attitude was elegantly expressed by Queen Noor in a magnificent political speech she gave recently in Chicago:

"I see an America that asks Jordan and Palestinians and other like-minded Arabs to show moderation and boldness, while America's aid to Israel is characterised by immolation..." she said.

A beautiful and emotional speech charged with contained bitterness and indignation, pronounced in perfect English by an American born Queen before an audience of her same nationality and origin. But above all, a speech charged with content. That same content which the King and other distinguished Jordanian personalities have been expressing in recent times.

We should not be shaken by a posture taken by the Jordanian monarch against the states. If one day it is political reasoning which imposes itself upon international behaviour of Washington, it can be confirmed that the Jordanian system would supply a basis for understanding. But no such political reasoning is forthcoming, neither has it been for some months.

As early as September 1983 the then information minister, and today an important political adviser, Adnan Abu Odeh, publicly expressed identical bitterness and disbelief vis-a-vis American inconsistency.

"By refusing to denounce the settlements as illegal, the U.S. encourages Israel to pursue its policies and gives it the green light for building more settlements pending the imposition of a de facto situation. We consider this American stand as shocking, which means that all United States' talk about peace is not true. How can Washington claim that it is working to establish peace while refraining from considering the settlements illegal?" said Mr. Abu Odeh.

And the King himself, widely quoted locally, said in December 1983 that "The efforts for peace are endangered by Israeli rejectionism. Arab disunity and American reluctance to act."

To finish, a phrase from Queen Noor's speech reflects success of public-political relations bestowed on the American system simultaneously from Chicago and Amman:

"How long can we wait? How much time do we really have to neutralise the negativity of the hour, reverse the current trend towards militarism and radicalism, and start forming a coalition of reason that could identify the middle ground that is acceptable to Arabs and Americans, to Palestinians and Israelis?"

"It is upon these realities and suggestions that we must reflect."

LETTERS

Find yourself better locks

To the Editor:

IN THE story under the headline "Police trap Egyptian watch thieves" (published in last Thursday-Friday Jordan Times), there is a point which beats logic. The report says that the culprits managed to change the padlocks of the shop during the day when the shopowner was not paying attention and used the keys of the new locks to open the shop at night to carry out the crime. It appears alright on the surface, but then how would you explain how the shopkeeper managed to close the locks after they have been changed? Or is it that the thieves also managed to switch keys with the shopowner?

Of course, it is possible that the locks were of the type which needs no keys to lock, for instance the snap-off type, but a shopkeeper who stocks valuables for over JD 30,000 in his shop should have been more careful in his selection of locks to safeguard his money and valuables.

Luthfi Mayra 'ayeh, Amman.

Lendl, McEnroe reach final

NEW YORK (R) — Ivan Lendl handed Jimmy Connors the most humiliating defeat of his tennis career Saturday and reached the final of the \$500,000 Tournament of Champions.

The third-seeded Czechoslovak became the first player to score a 6-0, 6-0 victory over Connors and now faces holder John McEnroe for the title.

The match was so one-sided that the top-seeded American managed only eight points in each set. It was sweet revenge for Lendl, who lost to Connors in the finals of the 1982 and 1983 U.S. Opens.

McEnroe, playing at the top of

his diversified game, thrashed fellow American Jimmy Arias 6-1, 6-2 in the other semifinal. It was the second seed's 31st consecutive victory.

The New Yorker has beaten Lendl in their last three meetings. Their all-time record stands at 8-8.

Lendl mixed backhand slices and forehand top-spin shots to negate Connors' powerful ground strokes. When Connors made his

approaches to the net, Lendl fired brilliant passing shots, generally from the backhand side.

"I really don't know what happened," said Connors. "I waited for the short ball and went to the net but it didn't work."

Lendl took pleasure in his revenge over Connors. "I was surprised by the score but it feels nice," he said.

Lendl won the Tournament of Champions in 1982 but was beaten in the third round last year by Henri Leconte of France.

He said he felt that his play Saturday equalled that at Rotterdam where he had a 6-0, 1-0 lead in the final against Connors.

Britain's Spedding boosts Olympic hopes by winning London Marathon

LONDON (R) — Britain's Charlie Spedding ran the race of his life Sunday to win the London Marathon in two hours nine minutes 57 seconds and boost his Olympic selection chances.

Despite blustery conditions, Spedding, 31, who won his only previous marathon at Houston in January, clipped a remarkable one minute 58 seconds off that time. His friend and clubmate Kevin Forster made it a British double, finishing second in 2:11:41.

A carnival atmosphere prevailed as thousands of spectators lined the route to cheer on the record 21,000 starters. With many running for charitable causes, the field included a kangaroo, a pantomime horse, two men dressed as bride and groom and eight Norwegians dressed as vikings and carrying the framework of a longboat.

Forster, 25, will have to wait and see if he has done enough to win Olympic selection ahead of British record holder Geoff Smith and Hugh Jones. Both opted to

miss this race which incorporated the Amateur Athletic Association Championships.

Spedding said: "I certainly hope I will now be picked for the Olympic Games. This was the big race, and most top Britons were here. I think the people who have run well today should be selected, but obviously the selectors are facing a dilemma."

The British pair proved unflappable, discussing tactics early on and refusing to match the blistering pace set by Tanzania's Juma Ikangaa, the Commonwealth Games silver medalist, and Zakariah Barie.

Spedding and Forster gradually closed the gap on the Africans and in the 29th kilometre, Spedding's steady approach paid off as he made a decisive break.

He ran the last 11 km alone and finished one minute 46 seconds ahead of Forster with Welshman Deodis Fowles making a late surge to grab third place in 2:12:12.

Mike Gratton, last year's winner, was never seriously in con-

tention and finished nearly seven minutes adrift with his Olympic dream in tatters.

The women's race was won by Norway's Ingrid Kristiansen, whose 2:24:26 was the second fastest time ever by a woman over the 42.195-km distance. Only American Joan Benoit has run faster, clocking 2:22:43 to win the Boston Marathon last year.

Kristiansen, 27, who gave birth to a son 10 months ago, bettered the previous women's best time of 2:25:29 set by Alisoo Roe of New Zealand in New York in 1981.

Kristiansen was out on her own from 10 km and the leading men, who started 10 minutes after the women, did not catch her until the 32-km mark.

British athletes Priscilla Welch and Sarah Rowell, who ran together for most of the way, also turned in useful performances.

Welch, 39, sliced two minutes off her previous best, finishing in 2:30:06, only 23 seconds outside the British record.

'Oweidat meets Arab, African volleyball federations chiefs

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN (J.T.) — Minister of Culture and Youth Abdullah 'Oweidat Sunday received the President of the Arab Volleyball Federation Majed Al Kahleh, the Secretary-General of the Federation Chadi Zotine and the President of the African Federation and the Tunisian Federation president.

Higuera also crashed out of the West German Open — to American Geoe Mayer to straight sets. Mayer said afterwards he felt Higuera had lost some of his usual timing and rhythm on clay during the match.

Wilander had a superb year in 1983 winning nine titles including the Australian Open when he defeated American John McEnroe and Czechoslovakia's Ivan Lendl.

hasied that it is important to exchange expertise in the sports fields.

Attending the meeting were Director General of the Youth Welfare Organisation Mohammad Jamil Abu Al Tayyeb and President of the Jordanian Volleyball Federation Mohammad Bzadogh.

Meanwhile the meeting of the Arab Volleyball Federation general assembly, the Arab Referees' Committee and the Board of Directors of the Arab Volleyball Federation will be held here, Monday.

In its meetings, the assembly will discuss the issue of re-admitting Egypt into the federation and the committee reports from the various Arab federations within the

general assembly to obtain a unified Arab stand regarding the Los Angeles Olympics meetings.

They will also discuss the issue of electing the Arab members to the International Volleyball Federation.

The assembly meetings which will be inaugurated by Minister of Culture, Youth, will also discuss ways of increasing co-operation between the various Arab federations and to approve the previous decisions made by the federation in its meeting in Riyadh last year.

The Arab Volleyball Federation includes in its membership all Arab countries.

Soviet press steps up support for boycott

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet press Sunday stepped up its support for Moscow's boycott of the Olympics, reinforcing the growing view that the decision is final.

Newspapers and the official Soviet news agency TASS quoted people ranging from a Congolese athlete in Brazzaville to a collective farm director in the western Ukraine who all backed the boycott, calling it "just" and "correct".

The Communist Party daily Pravda said President Reagan held the world record for hypocrisy because his latest assurances about security for Soviet athletes contained nothing new.

Moscow and the six other countries — East Germany, Laos, Vietnam, Czechoslovakia, Mongolia and Bulgaria — who have joined the boycott all cited fears for the safety of their athletes to justify their decision.

Western diplomats said the Pravda report, echoing a TASS commentary Saturday, reinforced their belief that Moscow would not go back on its decision.

As Soviet allies have gradually joined the boycott, so the flow of reports, readers' letters and commentaries supporting it in the media has increased from an initial trickle to a flood.

The tone of the press campaign

has changed as well as the volume, with more attacks on Washington's policies.

"The actions of the White House have shown once again the seriousness of the danger posed to peace and the consolidation of friendship among nations by the policy of the present U.S. administration," gymnast Mikhail Voronin wrote in the trade union daily 'Trud'.

Alexei Vorovoyov, head of a Moscow Sports College, said in the newspaper Sotsialisticheskaya Industriya that Washington supported anti-Soviet groups planning to demonstrate in Los Angeles.

"One could hardly have expected different from the Reagan administration, which is whipping up the arms race, supplying arms to dictatorial regimes and interfering in the affairs of sovereign states," Vorovoyov said.

"Those who ignore the United Nations Charter have nothing to do but wipe their dirty boots on the white Olympic flag," he added.

The Soviet media gave only subdued coverage to the boycott when it was first announced last Tuesday but the volume of material on the issue has gradually increased at the same time as it slipped off front pages in the west.

England to be expelled from Commonwealth Games, paper says

LONDON (R) — Third World countries say they have enough votes to suspend England from the 1986 Commonwealth Games in protest against an English rugby tour of South Africa, the Sunday Times reported.

The 55-member Commonwealth Games Federation is due to vote on the issue in Los Angeles on July 26, two days before the start of the Olympic Games.

The English rugby tour is due to start this week. Anti-apartheid groups who have been intensively lobbying for

the exclusion of England from the Commonwealth Games being staged in Edinburgh, Scotland, estimated that they now had the necessary two-thirds majority.

Sam Ramsamy, chairman of the South African Non-Racial Olympic Committee, an unofficial body which coordinates sports boycotts of South Africa, told the Sunday Times: "I have counted the votes and we will win by a big majority."

Teams from Scotland and Wales would not be affected if England were excluded.

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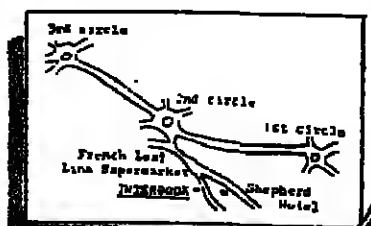
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Expert sees higher oil prices in 1985

LOUISVILLE, Kentucky (R) — Oil prices will rise next year as the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) takes action to limit supplies, according to Occidental Petroleum Chairman Armand Hammer.

In an interview with Reuters, Mr. Hammer said he believed higher oil prices would also bring higher prices for coal.

Occidental is the 14th largest American-based industrial corporation, based on 1983 sales of \$19.1 billion.

"I think the price of oil will go

up next year and coal will go up as well," Mr. Hammer said. "The (OPEC) cartel will make the oil price go up."

Mr. Hammer said OPEC would be able to force prices above the current \$29 a barrel benchmark price for crude oil because "all they'll do is cut down production to create a shortage."

Occidental's shift away from dependence on foreign oil for its earnings would leave the company in a good position if the forecast was borne out, he said.

U.S. steel industry seeks protection from imports

By Jacqueline Frank
Reuter

WASHINGTON — The U.S. steel industry, struggling through its darkest times since the great depression of the 1930s, has turned to Congress for help in combatting imports after receiving a cold shoulder from the White House.

It appears however that Congress may be no more receptive to the industry's plea than the administration was, even though this is an election year with all 435 seats in the House and a third of the 100 seats in the Senate at stake.

Taking its cue from the American car industry which successfully won import-restrictions from Japan, the U.S. steel industry has asked Congress to limit all imports to 15 percent of U.S. consumption for five years.

Imports accounted for 26.2 percent of U.S. sales in February. This compares with 13.4 per cent penetration just 10 years ago.

The plan would limit steel purchases from Europe, Japan, Brazil, South Korea and several developing countries.

"Steel is in its deepest crisis since depression of the thirties," U.S. Steel Corporation President David Roderick recently told Congress.

The steel industry lost a total of \$8 billion before taxes during 1982 and 1983. At the end of last year, 96,000 or one-third of the industry's workforce was unemployed.

Japan and Western Europe account for more than half of America's steel imports.

But United Steel Workers Union President Lyle Williams described as extraordinary the recent growth in imports from developing countries, most notably South Korea and Brazil, which has risen by 250 per cent since 1975.

Supporters of steel quotas point

to the increased profitability of the U.S. car industry which they contend resulted from Japan's voluntary agreement to hold back exports to the United States beginning in 1980.

The administration's position is clear. U.S. Trade Representative William Brock and Commerce Secretary Malcolm Baldrige told a House Trade Subcommittee hearing this month the administration was united in its strong opposition to quotas.

Mr. Brock told Reuters he did not think the steel quota bill or other trade protectionist bills before Congress would pass, but added there would be much agonising over the legislation between now and the end of the year.

If Congress did approve protectionist measures, Mr. Brock said, "everybody that sells steel would be in a position to retaliate."

Under internationally-agreed trade rules, if the United States arbitrarily imposed worldwide quotas it would be open to trade restrictions on \$6 billion in U.S. exports, a sum equal to the value of annual U.S. steel imports.

The administration's position, as put forward by Mr. Brock and Mr. Baldrige, strongly suggests Mr. Reagan would not sign a quota bill into law even if it cleared Congress.

However, Mr. Baldrige said the administration would continue to strictly follow trade laws designed to protect U.S. manufacturers against unfair trade practices by other countries.

This leaves the way open for the administration to invoke quotas against specific suppliers if the U.S. International Trade Commission (ITC) and the Commerce Department find the U.S. industry has been injured by unfairly traded foreign steel.

The industry has filed 41 trade complaints with the ITC and the agency opened hearings on the complaints last week.

EC ministers agree to put debt issue on London summit agenda

RAMBOUILLET, France (R) — European Community finance ministers unanimously agreed Saturday that short-term and long-term debt issues facing developing countries should be discussed at the seven Western nation economic summit in London next month, French Finance Minister Jacques Delors said.

Mr. Delors was speaking to reporters after a day of informal discussions among ministers and central bank governors from the 10-nation trading bloc.

The move follows a sharp rise in U.S. interest rates, which has pushed the dollar higher against other major currencies.

Mr. Delors said: "It would be banal to say that the rise is preoccupying all the Community finance ministers."

This applied to both the impact

on growth prospects in the Community in 1984 and 1985, and on developing countries, which he described as "truly dramatic".

Mr. Delors confirmed that European central banks had engaged in joint intervention on the world's currency market last week, which succeeded in putting a stop to the dollar's latest rise.

But he criticised the failure of the U.S. authorities to act as well, despite an agreement last year to join in concerted action on the

markets in event of disorderly conditions.

The agreement on the importance of getting the debt issue discussed at the London summit on June 7 to 9 came during preparatory talks for a series of meetings on international financial and trade issues.

In addition to the London summit, these include the annual ministerial meeting of the 24-nation Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in Paris on May 17-18 and a "group of ten" Western industrialised nations finance ministers meeting in Rome on May 19.

France has tabled a set of proposals, including strengthening the role of international financial institutions to help deal with the debt issue for discussion at a pre-

paratory meeting for the group of ten G-10 talks on Wednesday, he said.

On European Community issues, Mr. Delors, who chaired the meeting, announced agreement on re-opening discussions about improving the European Monetary System (EMS).

The main feature of the EMS has been the relative currency stability created between the member currencies compared with the ups and downs of the dollar, the British pound sterling and the Japanese yen.

Ministers agreed to increase the ceiling on the Community's borrowing powers at their next meeting on June 4.

A loan granted to France last year took up two-thirds of the current amount of \$4.8 billion.

Trade ministers meet to reduce economic tensions

WASHINGTON (R) — Trade Ministers from 13 countries Saturday ended informal talks aimed at reducing international economic tensions while seeking answers to a number of complex trade issues.

U.S. Trade Representative Bill Brock, who hosted the three-day gathering, told a news conference that it was the "most constructive meeting" of its kind that he had attended in the three years "I have had this job".

The meeting had no agenda and did not expect to reach any agreements. But officials, including Mr. Brock, said there was a consensus that there should be greater

co-operation between countries in order to revitalise the world economy.

He said it was felt that trade rules should be strengthened so the world economy could resume growth.

Officials said the meeting, which included representatives from the European Community and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), expressed deep concern about the debt crisis and the impact of high interest rates on the ability of countries to improve their financial situations.

The meetings were held against a backdrop of continued strong economic recovery in the U.S. that

is spreading to Europe and Japan and beginning to be felt in the Third World.

However, protectionist pressures that surfaced during the recent global recession — the worst economic slowdown since the 1930s — are still very strong in many countries, including the United States.

Mr. Brock said that while countries attending the meeting expressed some concern about high interest rates in the U.S. and the budget deficit, it was not the sort of gathering where states "pointed the finger at anyone".

Other officials said there was some discussion about changing

the length of IMF loans being made to assist countries with balance of payments and other problems.

At present the agency only makes short-term loans to such countries. IMF Managing Director Jacques de Larosiere told the meeting this could not be changed unless the IMF had greater access to funding.

International economic discussions will continue next week when the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) meets in Paris. This will be followed in June by the economic summit in London.

Syrian economy hampered by military spending

By Michael Sheridan
Reuter

DAMASCUS — "Cigarettes?" cries the small boy, peddling a well-known western brand amid the hubbub of the carpet sellers' souk (market) in old Damascus.

"Cold drink?" Asks a nearby vendor, pulling a can of an internationally-known soft drink from an ice-filled basin.

Both products, like many others of foreign origin, are officially unavailable in Syria. But somehow Syrians seem to be buying and selling such goods all over the capital.

Western economists here say most of them are smuggled from Lebanon and Syria's other neighbours, reflecting an acute foreign exchange shortage, which has cut back officially sanctioned imports but failed to reduce consumer demand.

"Syria's economy is stuck in a rut. The burden of military spending, a falloff in Arab aid and problems in the industrial sector all spell stagnation," said a Western diplomat.

As a frontline state pursuing confrontation with Israel, Syria, with some 350,000 people under arms, spends about a third of its budget on security.

The government's recent 1984 budget envisages spending of

\$10.27 billion, up about 5.3 per cent on 1983.

But Western economists here caution against referring to the sparse official figures published in the budget as a guide to the economy's performance.

"Here, you see the 1983 budget," said one expert, unrolling 12-page Arabic document. "In the whole thing there are just three lines referring to defence and national security — that's almost a third of the total expenditure."

He says reliable estimates put Arab aid to Syria, a mainstay of the country's revenue, at under \$1 billion in 1983 against the \$1.8 billion it was supposed to receive annually under the 1978 Arab summit agreement in Baghdad.

Diplomats blame the decline in Arab and foreign aid, which was about \$1.8 billion in 1981, on financial retrenchment among gulf donors and Syrian support for

the Iran-Iraq war. Economists say the 1982 Lebanon war against Israel led to the end of years of positive economic performance. Syria faced big equipment replacement costs after the conflict, which coincided with the drop in aid and higher imports.

"At the same time, demand for Syrian exports, which are mainly crude and refined oil, cotton tex-

tiles and yarns, was slackening and prices on world commodity markets were down," one Western economist said.

"They ended up with a continuous trade deficit (estimated at \$1.4 billion in 1983) and found their foreign currency reserves draining away," he said.

Economists, however, praise President Hafez Al Assad's ruling Arab Baath Socialist Party for avoiding the trap of massive foreign commercial debt. "They have concentrated on belt-tightening instead," one diplomat said.

Tough import licensing procedures and rules requiring imports to be financed through the Commercial Bank of Syria have cut officially approved imports from \$4.8 billion in 1981 to an estimated \$3.5 billion last year.

Syria has relatively small oil reserves, but it has managed to preserve an equilibrium between crude imports and exports.

It imported about six million tonnes of crude oil from Iran in 1983 under an agreement tied to its Gulf war support for Tehran and its closure of a pipeline carrying Iraqi exports to a refinery on the Mediterranean coast at Banias.

At the same time, it exported some eight million tonnes of its own heavier crude oil. The oil agreement with Tehran

was renewed recently at undisclosed terms, but was believed to include concessionary rates from Iran and guaranteed Syrian exports to Iran.

Western economists say, however, that new oil reserves must be found soon to boost output to meet domestic consumption and pay for rising imports. If not, they say, Syria will be unable to maintain its position as a net oil exporter.

They say Syria's industrial sector, mainly nationalised in the 1950s and 1960s, suffers from low output, overmanning and poor product quality.

The foreign exchange shortage has also imposed difficulties on the import of raw materials and spare parts.

The Assad government has recognised the need for a continuing private sector role in the economy, but some 85 per cent of all manufacturing is under state corporate control.

Exports remain static at an estimated \$2.1 billion in 1983, almost unchanged since 1980.

Economists say that without radical changes in domestic industrial policy, chiefly to cut bureaucratic delays and curbs, without an upturn in commodity market demand or renewed Arab aid, Syria faces a continuing downturn in its economy.

Dubai's 1983 oil exports rise but revenue falls

DUBAI (R) — Dubai's oil exports increased slightly in 1983 despite the oil glut, but its revenues fell, statistics issued by Dubai Chamber of Commerce and Industry showed Sunday.

They showed Dubai's oil exports rose to an average 364,140 barrels per day (BPD) in 1983 from 360,537 BPD the previous year.

But, due to falling oil prices, the Emirate's income in 1983 fell to 14.54 billion dirhams (\$3.93 billion) from 16.09 billion (\$4.35 billion) in 1982.

Dubai is the second largest oil exporter in the United Arab Emirates, selling one third of the UAE's 1.1 million BPD OPEC quota.

FORECAST FOR MONDAY, MAY 14, 1984

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: A full Moon period when there is considerable activity toward getting your practical and financial affairs in good condition, but you will fluctuate in how you approach this. Try to be consistent.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Gating agreements improved with others will make it easier to carry through with your part of them. Have fun in the evening.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Begin the week properly by giving more attention to the duties ahead of you. Have important meetings with associates.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Early set up appointments with persons you like for evening, and then dig right in to all that work ahead of you.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Be sure to keep promises made to your family, and then later you can be with your friends.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Be cautious in the handling of communication in the morning since later you have to rush home and get the situation there improved.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Financial affairs are important in the morning so handle them carefully. Keep rooted to the practical to better your situation.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Go after your personal affairs in the morning since later you have to be more concerned with the practical side of life.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Important you go to advisors confidentially and learn how to make greater progress in the future. Do a special favor for mate.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) In your spare time, go after some personal goal and gain it quickly. Be tactful with your friends. Avoid confrontations.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Begin the day properly by handling civic affairs wisely, and then you can pursue intimate goals.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Study your new goals early and then find better ways of gaining prestige. Don't let anyone flummox you.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) A thoughtful gift for your mate in the morning can work wonders for you now. Be more broad-minded. You are highly inspired.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will be one who will be able to get at the root of many things that others fail to comprehend and can then arrive at the right decisions to handle them wisely. One who will never be impulsive but will meditate and reflect before taking action.

"The Stars impel; they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

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THE BETTER HALF. By Harris

"He has trouble waking up in the morning, so I keep his undershirts in the freezer!"

JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee

Unscramble these four Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

PLEEX
CLEAB
FISHET
RAZDAH

Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: WHOOP CHIDE COLUMN FIXING
Answer: Language used by those pretentious jet-setters—HIGH-FLOWN

Peanuts

Dear Sweetheart, I see your face in every rose...
...every daffodil...
every crab grass...
crab grass...

Mutt 'n' Jeff

I'll get that raise! Tomorrow I'll show the boss how the firm can save money by cleaning out the phonies!

BOSS PRIVATE

HE STARTED WITH ME!

BYE, MUM. HOPE YOUR COLD IS SOON BETTER

BYE, MISSUS. THANKS FOR DROPPING IN — IT WAS A LOAD OF FUN, IT REALLY WAS.

HE MEANS THAT, MOST SINCERELY EVERY TIME SHE SNEEZED HER SPECS FELL OFF

HEH! HEH! HEH! HEH!

THE Daily Crossword by Bernard Meren

ACROSS
1 Aleutian island
5 Kind of pepper
9 Opera song
13 Vex
14 Donnybrook
15 Bobcat
18 Purr's pal
17 A Massey
18 Certain
19 Bone breakers. In a child's rhyme
22 Towel word
23 Ordinal
24 Small amount
27 10D was one

DOWN
30 Map in a map
35 Bitter medicine plant
37 Meadow
38 Part of TNT
39 Giants' playground
43 Adult insect
44 Hockey goal
45 Plum
46 Haula
47 Close, poetically
49 Saa bird
50 Word with mark or phone
52 Climax

54 Car feature
63 Node
64 Ride a bike
65 Native American sign
67 Castle or Papas
68 Diamond or Simon
69 Dampens
70 Wan
71 Elihu

24 Kind of agreement
25 Cottonwood
26 Oscar winner
28 Band leader
29 Colonial governor
31 Dog bites
32 Trita
33 Fielder's tumble
34 Subway fare
36 Advantage
40 Unsuccessful one
41 Wrath
42 Sound of firewood
47 Main vessel
48 Ethiopian prince
51 Gelatin salad
53 Imposter
55 De- (elegant)
56 Leave out
57 Chooses
58 Date for Caesar
59 Tilt
60 Virginia willow
61 Epee's cousin
62 Far. pref.

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ACROSS
1 HAMS
2 BUST
3 AQUIA
4 CIO
5 ARISS
6 PURIL
7 SHOOT
8 TIRN
9 LIRA
10 SAVI
11 LIT
12 TIES
13 FLIS
14 SNACK
15 INTER
16 GLOB
17 ALIA
18 ERIO
19 ATTIR
20 IASH
21 MIRIN
22 GARS
23 BERS
24 OTTER
25 DITEA
26 ALLY
27 BETTA
28 SUBS
29 IDIES

DOWN
1 ADOTIS
2 PUSS
3 RIALS
4 WILD
5 FORTIF
6 BIRD
7 ELKE
8 GUEFAR
9 BIES
10 ABET
11 LEAVE
12 ETNA
13 HARS
14 EIDED
15 LEAR

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Namibia talks resume in last bid for agreement

LUSAKA (R) — Tense all-party talks on Namibian (South West African) independence resumed for an unscheduled third day Sunday in a last desperate attempt to draw up a final communique.

Delegates said they would try to agree on a joint text during the closed-door session but said any major breakthrough was unlikely. Representatives of the black nationalist guerrilla group SWAPO (South West Africa People's Organisation) Saturday night predicted total failure for the Lusaka conference.

Spokesman Theo-Ben Gurirab, SWAPO's representative at the United Nations, accused delegates from Namibia's internal political parties of trying to wreck the conference.

"Frankly, there will be no agreed position emerging from Lusaka," he told reporters.

Namibian Internal Party Spokesman Dirk Vlodde countered by saying SWAPO had jeopardised the talks by refusing to recognise his group. The guerrilla movement has repeatedly said it will negotiate only with South Africa, which it terms Namibia's colonial power.

The conference was due to end Saturday after two days of talks between SWAPO, a South African delegation led by Pretoria's administrator-general for Namibia, Willie Van Niekerk, and members of the territory's South African-backed Multi-Party Conference (MPC) Coalition.

Conference sources said it was intended to hold one last session of talks in an attempt to find some kind of consensus — even if it was only an agreement to meet again.

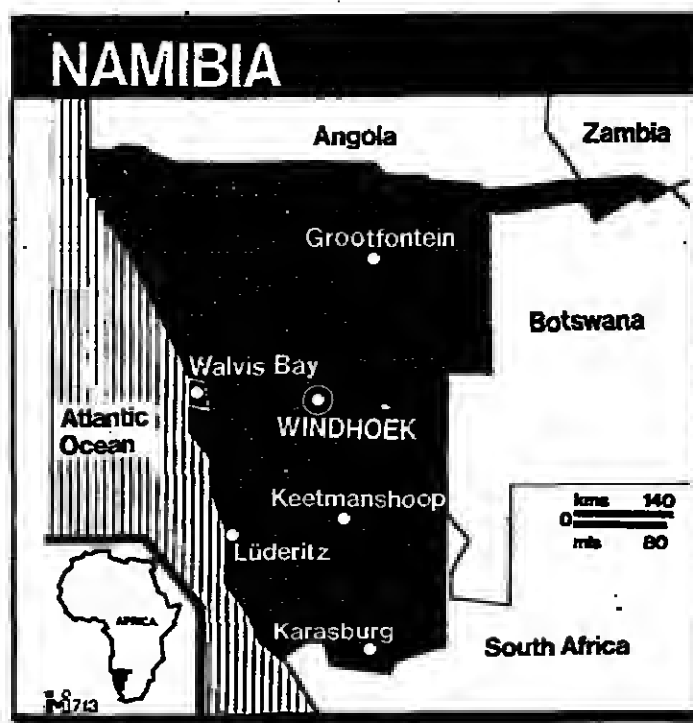
SWAPO has been waging a bush war for nearly 18 years in pursuit of independence for Namibia, a former German colony ruled by South Africa in defiance of the United Nations.

The main item at the conference is implementation of a U.N. independence plan for the territory, including a ceasefire and internationally-supervised elections. South Africa has fostered the MPC as an election alternative to SWAPO.

The cautious mood of optimism that marked the run-up to the Lusaka talks was soured soon after Zambia's President Kenneth Kaunda's opening speech. The MPC objected to the presence of rebel members of one of its own component parties in the SWAPO delegation.

SWAPO agreed to withdraw three rebels after eight hours of wrangling. But Mr. Gurirab said Saturday night the MPC's subsequent contribution to the talks had been marked by "prevarication and intransigence."

The conference was going the way of a similar meeting in Geneva in 1981, he said. The Geneva conference collapsed over such issues as who rightfully represented the territory.



Editor's killing sets back Punjab peace moves

NEW DELHI (R) — Security forces with shoot on sight orders paralysed the Punjab town of Jullundur Sunday to put down riots over the Sikh extremist murder of a major Hindu newspaper editor.

A group calling itself the Dasmesh (tenth) Regiment claimed responsibility for killing Ramesh Chander, editor-in-chief of the Hind Samachar (India News) family newspaper group in Jullundur Saturday.

Mr. Chander, 60, whose journalist-father was also murdered by Sikh extremists in 1981, was the third Punjab journalist to be killed this year.

The Dasmesh Regiment, blamed for a string of murders of prominent Hindus and moderate Sikhs, said in a telephone call to the Press Trust of India (PTI) that anyone who opened his mouth against the Sikh extremist cause and militant preacher Jarnail Singh Bhindranwale would meet the same fate.

"Whoever will dare to attack Bhindranwale with his pen will get a befitting reply with bullets and all the installations we have paid so far are proof of it," the caller said.

Mr. Chander's killing set off riots Saturday in Jullundur where about 5,000 Hindus rampaged through the city, burning buses and buildings and stoning police and firemen.

Paramilitary re-inforcements were rushed to the city which was under curfew until Monday. Security alerts were flashed to other parts of Punjab state in case of more protests.

Police said Mr. Chander, a former member of the Punjab Parliament, was shot dead by three men who ambushed his car in the centre of the city. Three people, including Mr. Chander's bodyguard, were wounded.

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi condemned the killing, saying: "Like his father Mr. Chander has become the victim of the campaign of terror and hate which is disgracing the region."

Mr. Chander's father, Lala Jagat Narain, was one of the first major victims of a Sikh extremist campaign for greater religious and political concessions in Punjab, where most of India's 12 million Sikhs live.

Mr. Narain's murder three years ago also catapulted Mr. Bhindranwale to national prominence when he was arrested for involvement in the murder.

The arrest set off riots in which at least 17 people died before the militant Sikh leader was released.

Bush prepares for talks with Gandhi

NEW DELHI (R) — U.S. Vice-President George Bush met American ambassadors from South Asian states Sunday in preparation for lengthy talks with Prime Minister Indira Gandhi. U.S. diplomats said.

Envoys from Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal and India gathered in the U.S. embassy Sunday for informal discussions with Mr. Bush who will hold several hours of detailed talks with Mrs. Gandhi Monday.

Diplomats told Reuters the U.S. Ambassador to Colombo, John Reed, was not present, apparently because of attempts to free an American couple kidnapped by separatist guerrillas in Sri Lanka's northern province of Jaffna on Thursday.

Mr. Bush arrived Saturday for a four-day visit which both Indian and U.S. officials hope will re-inforce U.S.-Indian ties.

As a banquet given in his honour, Mr. Bush called for stability and greater prosperity in South Asia and said there was no fundamental conflict between Indian and American foreign policies.

Mr. Bush will meet Mrs. Gandhi in her office Monday before the two leaders have lunch. The vice-

president and his wife Barbara will then join Mrs. Gandhi and her son and political heir apparent, Rajiv, in what diplomats said was an unprecedented private dinner.

Their talks were expected to concentrate on their differing views on the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan which Mr. Bush Saturday described as the most destabilising factor in the region.

New Delhi was likely to express anxiety over U.S. arms sales to neighbouring Pakistan, which has fought three wars with India since the two countries gained independence in 1947.

In Saturday's speech, Mr. Bush apparently sought to re-assure Mrs. Gandhi's government on the issue. He said the United States welcomed moves to strengthen India's links with Pakistan and China.

Mr. Bush flew to Agra Sunday for a brief visit to the Taj Mahal, India's most famous tourist attraction. The Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency said he wrote a tribute in the visitor's book.

"No words can describe the incredible majesty of one of the world's most special places," Mr. Bush wrote.

Hu rules out N. Korean military threat to South

PEKING (R) — Chinese Communist Party leader Hu Yaobang Sunday ruled out any North Korean military threat to the South and said China acted as a go-between for Pyongyang with Washington over the issue of the U.S. garrison supporting Seoul.

"I think that the alleged intention of the North to thrust South is sheer nonsense," he told the New China News Agency in an interview two days after he returned from a trip to North Korea.

Repeating China's support for Pyongyang's call for a withdrawal of the U.S. troops in the South, Mr. Hu said: "In this respect we have passed some messages from the Northern part of Korea to the U.S. government."

He said China hoped the problem would be solved "step by step through contacts and negotiation."

Western diplomats said this seemed to suggest Pyongyang's wish for a total withdrawal of U.S. troops as a prerequisite for talks on re-unification of the divided peninsula was not a realistic aim.

Mr. Hu re-affirmed China's support for the North's recent peninsula was not a realistic aim. The South and its U.S. ally.

Washington's hints that it would be pleased to see China join such talks have hit stony ground and Seoul has rejected the North's proposals in their present form.

Mr. Hu reasoned that the North had too much to lose from any re-opening of the bitter civil war over 30 years ago.

"Can all this have been created only to be damaged or to be reduced to ashes in another war?" he asked.

Summing up China's understanding of North Korea's proposals, Mr. Hu said the general goal was an independent and peaceful re-unification based on a North-South confederation reached through negotiation.

The aim was to preserve the existing social systems of the two sides while ending the tension and lifting the heavy burden of armaments expenditure from both sides, he said.

Relations between China and North Korea have not all been entirely rosy. Western diplomats said China was annoyed by last October's deadly bomb attack on South Korean officials in Ramgoon, which Burma blamed on North Korea.

Marcos appears set for victory in today's poll

MANILA (R) — President Ferdinand Marcos seems certain of victory in Monday's Philippine parliamentary elections, despite popular anger at the murder of opposition leader Benigno Aquino and a crumbling economy.

The elections for 183 members of the National Assembly, the first since martial law was lifted three years ago, have been marked by violence, accusations of unfair campaigning, and opposition charges that the vote will be rigged.

But the opposition, divided over whether to participate in the poll and lacking the national political machinery to mount a serious challenge to Mr. Marcos, appears to have failed to capitalise on issues like the Aquino killing and the economic crisis.

The crowds which protested after Sen. Aquino's death at Manila Airport in August have been absent from opposition rallies in the last few days of campaigning.

Political analysts say the main opposition group, the United Nationalist Democratic Organisation (UNIDO), is unlikely to win much support outside metropolitan Manila.

The analysis said that although UNIDO was likely to win more seats in the new assembly, it would be because of voter disenchantment with 19 years of Marcos rule rather than support for the opposition.

The economy ran into severe trouble after Sen. Aquino's death as foreign investors pulled out and banks, already owed \$26 billion, refused to extend more loans.

Bankers say honest and peaceful elections Monday are crucial for renewed confidence in the country and the granting of a \$630-million credit being negotiated with the International Monetary Fund.

Inflation was running at 33 per cent in January and the peso was devalued 21 per cent in October.

Mr. Marcos said in a final campaign pitch on television Saturday night that government spending would be cut five per cent in an effort to avoid a further devaluation. He blamed the country's

economic crisis on factors beyond his control.

He said his New Society Movement (KBL) Party had strong support and did not need to cheat in the elections.

UNIDO Leader Salvador Laurel has accused Mr. Marcos of planning to rig the poll. He has also said the KBL exceeded statutory limits on campaign spending and monopolised television canvassing.

The Archbishop of Manila, Cardinal Jaime Sin, has said he is praying that the poll will not be marked by the irregularities which he maintains occurred previously under the Marcos administration.

Sen. Laurel and Archbishop Sin both said violence could break out if the vote was rigged.

More than 50 people have died so far in election-related violence. Local newspapers Sunday reported that 13 more had been killed by suspected Communist rebels of the New People's Army (NPA), most of them in the southern province of Zamboanga Del Norte. The NPA has threatened to disrupt voting.

The elections are being boycotted by a group called the Coalition of Organisations for the Restoration of Democracy (CORD) which has called a rally later Sunday, breaking the rules on campaigning which officially ended at midnight Saturday night.

The group has denounced the elections as a scheme to perpetuate what it calls the Marcos dictatorship.

A crowd of about 10,000 turned out for the boycott protest, which was also the climax of an "anti-election" rally from some 500 kilometres north and southeast of Manila organised by Agapito Aquino, younger brother of the late former senator.

Police generally kept out of sight in their headquarters beneath the stadium where the rally was held.

CORD has called for "noise barrages" on the streets Sunday night and Monday and urged people to register at special "people's boycott centres" instead of voting.

Kidnappers repeat threat to kill American couple

COLOMBO (R) — Separatist guerrillas holding a kidnapped American couple repeated their threat Sunday to kill them unless their demands were met by noon local time Monday.

The guerrillas told Sri Lankan President Junius Jayewardene in a letter the deadline was due to expire in 24 hours and the couple would die if he did not co-operate.

The letter was received as Mr. Jayewardene sent a message to President Reagan and the couple's parents made an emotional appeal to the kidnappers.

A guerrilla group called the People's Liberation Army seized Stanley Dryson Allen, 36, and his wife, Mary, 29, from their home in Sri Lanka's troubled northern district of Jaffna on Thursday.

They want the release of 20 colleagues held by Sri Lanka and a ransom of \$5 million rupees (\$30 million) in gold.

They said that if the demands were not met by the noon deadline (0630 GMT) Monday the Allens would be killed within six hours of each other.

The guerrillas, who are fighting for a separate Tamil state in Sri Lanka, asked for the prisoners and gold to be handed over to authorities in India's state of Tamil Nadu.

Mr. Allen, an engineer, had worked in Jaffna for six months on a water management project aided by the U.S. government.

The couple, from Columbus, Ohio, were married in March. It was Mr. Allen's second marriage.

Two children by his first marriage are in the United States.

National Security Minister Lalith Athulathmudali said Sunday he was prepared to talk to the guerrillas to obtain the couple's release.

He told reporters: "I am willing to talk to anybody. Our primary concern is to see that these two innocent people are released."

He said there was evidence that the Allens had been taken by the kidnappers to Tamil Nadu in South India, but he did not discount the possibility that they were still in Sri Lanka.

He said a team of experts in kidnapping, sponsored by the U.S. government to assist in the search for the couple, was likely to arrive in Sri Lanka "any time now."

He also assured the guerrillas that he would "not pursue them with a vigour" if the couple were released.

In his message to Mr. Reagan, Mr. Jayewardene expressed distress at the abduction of the Allens and said: "I have directed that every possible avenue be explored to secure their safe release."

"I hope that the international community would be able to eradicate terrorism which has become a major challenge to those of us who believe in the democratic process," he added.

No trace of the Allens has yet been found despite an intensive air-sea and land search by both the Sri Lankan and Indian authorities around the 35 kilometre strait separating the two countries.

Salvadorean rebels arrive in Mexico

MEXICO CITY (R) — Five leftist Salvadorean guerrillas, who released 73 hostages they were holding in a supermarket after negotiating safe conduct out of the country, arrived here Saturday amid tight police security.

The guerrillas, wearing blue jeans and sports shirts, were whisked away in a convoy of eight police cars as they got off a commercial flight at Mexico City's international airport.

It was not known where the rebels were taken.

Diplomatic sources said the five — one woman and four men — had been granted political asylum in Mexico but government officials here were unavailable for comment.

Earlier reports, as the rebels boarded the plane for Mexico hooded in white sheets to avoid identification, had said they were three men and two women.

The hostages were released early Saturday morning in San Salvador.

Ershad broadcast disappoints opposition

DHAKA (R) — A 15-party opposition alliance said Sunday president Mohammad Ershad's postponement of elections had pushed Bangladesh into worse uncertainty about when it would be returned to democracy from his military rule.

"The president, contrary to our expectations, has made no clear commitment on holding the national elections or lifting of the martial law," the alliance said in a statement.

Gen. Ershad said in a national broadcast Saturday he was postponing parliamentary and presidential elections that were to have been held together on May 27.

He said parliamentary elections would be held next winter ahead of any other polls and that details

of the presidential election would be decided after further talks with opposition parties.

The alliance said the change of timing for the poll virtually pushed the country into worse uncertainty because Gen. Ershad had given no specific dates for the elections and an end to his military rule.

"Ershad has in fact turned down our demands," the statement said. The alliance, led by Sheikh Hasina Wazed, and other opposition groups had pressed for parliamentary elections first as a major step towards returning the country to democracy.

Gen. Ershad held talks with all opposition groups including the Alliance and a seven-party group headed by Begum Khaleja Zia last month on elections and

other issues, but they ended in disagreement.

Sheikh Hasina's Alliance said Gen. Ershad was buying time by delaying the elections in order to perpetuate his military rule.

"We undoubtedly wanted that parliamentary elections should be held at an early date, ahead of other polls. We never wished that the voting should become uncertain or be delayed according to the choice of the military rulers," it said.

Gen. Ershad said Saturday his two years of military rule was being phased out, paving the way for a civilian government.

But he argued that martial law could not be lifted until a successor government came into being. "That would leave us in a vacuum," he said.

Jackson seen unlikely to repeat Syrian success with Soviets

By Rodney Pinder

FOUR

WASHINGTON (R) — Presidential candidate Jesse Jackson's unique style of personal diplomacy, which triumphed with Syria six months ago, is unlikely to succeed with the Soviet Union, independent analysts say.

By trying to persuade the Kremlin to reverse its boycott of the Olympic Games, the 43-year-old Baptist preacher had plunged into the chill waters of the superpower relationship whose currents were too powerful for one man to change, they said.

"The overbearing issue of icy U.S.-Soviet relations is behind all of this," said a prominent former U.S. diplomat who asked not to be named because of the sensitivity of the issue.

Democratic presidential contender Jackson, the first black to make a serious bid for the White House, launched a campaign to save the Olympics Friday by visiting Soviet Ambassador Anatoly Dobrynin with an appeal to Moscow to change its mind.

He seemed to recognise his limitations when he said afterwards that only President Reagan could give Moscow the assurances it required, but he said he would battle on with congressmen, athletes, the public and the Soviets.

Aides said Rev. Jackson Saturday met black congressmen in

an effort to organise legislators, sportsmen and other people interested in salvaging the Los Angeles games into a committee which would press the Soviet and U.S. administrations for action.

"Lots of people are interested. We are shaping this thing up as the hours go by," said spokesman Eric Easter.

NEWS ANALYSIS

The White House said it had wished Rev. Jackson success but continued to insist there would be no direct government bid to reverse Moscow's stand. Spokesman Larry Speakes said it was a matter between Moscow and the International Olympic Committee.

Rev. Jackson's initiative recalled his dramatic trip to Syria last December when he secured the release of U.S. Navy airman Robert Goodman, shot down over Lebanon.

Mr. Reagan had made clear he considered the move meddlesome, but it brought results where the administration had failed and boosted Rev. Jackson's bid for the Democratic nomination with a moral victory over the president and other critics.

The former U.S. envoy said Rev. Jackson's success then was favoured by peculiar circumstances which were absent

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN
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BELLADONNA'S BEAUTY?

DEAR READERS: We have had many requests over the years for those hands that we consider to be our favorites. That makes quite a list. For the time being, therefore, we are devoting the Sunday column to a series of famous hands. At the end of the series, we will go back to our weekly question and answer column. Both vulnerable. North deals.

NORTH
♦ J4
♦ K7
♦ 7654
♦ A543

WEST EAST
♦ K5 ♦ 3
♦ Q842 ♦ A1095
♦ KQ103 ♦ J982
♦ Q92 ♦ KJ107

SOUTH
♦ AQ1098762
♦ J63
♦ A
♦ 6

The bidding:
North East South West
Pass Pass 4 ♦ Pass
Pass Pass
Opening lead: King of ♦.

We all like to have our superheroes. For Italian bridge players, they were the fabulous Blue Team, who ruled the international scene from the late 1950s through the early 1970s. Their names are legend, perhaps none more so than the great Giorgio Belladonna.

As with many stories about characters we know, some of the tales accredited to the Blue Team are

apocryphal. Perhaps one of the classic cases is this hand, which was first shown to us at the European Championships in 1965. One of his many fans claimed that Belladonna had played the hand.

It takes superb play to make four spades. If you win the ace of diamonds and lead a heart to the king, you go down. East wins the ace and returns a trump, and no matter what you do accurate defense will net East-West three heart tricks and a trump. But look at the difference if, after winning the ace of diamonds, declarer craves to dummy with the ace of clubs and leads a low heart away from the king!

If East has the queen and rises to win the trick so that he can lead a trump, declarer loses only two heart tricks and a trump. As the cards lie, East plays low and West captures the jack with the queen. If he leads a trump to keep dummy from ruffing a heart, he loses his trump trick. If he returns anything else, declarer has time to ruff a heart. Either way, the contract is safe.

When we showed the hand to Belladonna and asked him about it, he denied having played it. One of the journalists at the tournament remembered the hand — it was a composition of the late Paul Lukas, one of the game's great problemists.

If Belladonna is to be remembered by one particular hand, let it be one of the many that this genius of the game actually declared, rather than this tainted one!

COLUMN

New York lottery numbers drawn

NEW YORK (R) — Ticket holders who picked 3-9-22-31-36-24 are set for life as winners of North America's biggest jackpot, the \$22.1 million New York State Lottery. But officials will not announce until later Sunday whether anyone has won the prize. The winning numbers were drawn live on television at 10.20 p.m. night (10.20 GMT Sunday). The names of winner or winners will not be known until someone comes forward with the correct numbers on a ticket. A single winner would receive more than \$450,000, less 20 per cent in federal taxes, every year for 21 years. Lotto fever has gripped New York over the past few days as thousands jammed ticket counters hoping to win a fortune. The rash of sales Saturday prompted officials to turn the stakes twice — from the day's start of \$18.5 million to 20 million and then onward to \$22.1 million.

Tug-of-war record attempt fails

LENZBURG, Switzerland (R) — An attempt to break the world tug of war record here Saturday ended tragically when the rope broke, ripping off one or more fingers from at least a dozen people, police said. They said the rope snapped 30 seconds after some 800 people began tugging at it. One elderly Swiss man lost his whole hand, the Swiss News Agency SDA reported.

Murder suspect surrenders

CUNEO, Italy (AP) — A suspected murderer surrendered in police Saturday after holding hostage two people and the judge who was trying to mediate, police officials said. Three policemen were injured by gunfire during the seven-hour siege in this northern Italian city, the officials said. Hundreds of armed policemen had surrounded a downtown apartment building before Ivo Francia, 23, surrendered after police refused to give in to his demands for an undisclosed amount of cash and a car. Francia and Agnese Catini, 79, were arrested and taken to police headquarters for questioning, police officials said. Eufio Vasta, 26, surrendered voluntarily earlier in the afternoon.

Relations between China and North Korea have not all been entirely rosy. Western diplomats said China was annoyed by last October's deadly bomb attack on South Korean officials in Ramgoon, which Burma blamed on North Korea.

Genghis Khan's mausoleum expanded

PEKING (R) — The mausoleum of Genghis Khan, founder of the feared Mongol empire that stretched from Europe to China in the 13th Century, is getting a facelift. The site in southwest inner Mongolia, believed to be the actual burial place of the Mongol leader, would be renovated to include 2,000 square metres of murals depicting life at the Khan's court and his achievements, the People's Daily said. The Chinese Communist first built a mausoleum at the site in 1956 and Genghis Khan, who said life's greatest pleasure was to "slaughter your enemies, steal their cattle, embrace their women," is now revered as a national hero.

Cairo cracks gang of forgers

CAIRO (AP) — Egyptian police have cracked a gang which was selling forged passports to enable people to make religious pilgrimages to Muslim holy shrines in Saudi Arabia. Cairo newspapers reported Saturday. The newspapers gave no figures on the numbers of people arrested but said police seized 107 false passports in the raids. According to the papers, the gang sold the false passports to people who were not allowed to leave the country, presumably including some who faced criminal charges. The reports said the passports were intended to be used by Egyptians wishing to perform the "omra," or lesser pilgrimage to the holy cities of Mecca and Medina.

China executes 3 convicts

PEKING (AP) — Chinese authorities executed three people and jailed 14 in connection with a coal-selling crime ring that netted more than 10 million yuan (\$5 million), the Workers Daily reported Sunday. The newspaper said Wu Zhongtang, Zhi Shipping and Xu Lanpin were executed Saturday on orders of the Intermediate People's Court in the Henan provincial capital of Zhengzhou.